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*Soviet Union*

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FURTHER REACTION TO UK REJECTION OF USSR INITIATIVE

Rejection Not 'Definitive'

PM171621 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 86 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Maslennikov report: "Ignoring the Dictates of Reason"]

[Text] London, 12 Mar -- Reports appeared in the press here yesterday that the M. Thatcher government has rejected the 15 January Soviet disarmament proposals offered to it. It considers "unacceptable" the Soviet Union's proposal to Britain and France not to build up their own corresponding nuclear arms given the complete elimination of the USSR and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. London states that the question of limiting Britain's nuclear forces can only be discussed after the completion of the Soviet-U.S. nuclear and space arms talks in Geneva. Just as in U.S. President Reagan's reply to the Soviet proposals, questions of nuclear disarmament are linked in the British letter with the patently farfetched "need for a leveling of the balance in conventional armaments" as well as the broadening of the discussion on regional, bilateral, and other problems.

Speaking in Parliament, Labour Party leader N. Kinnock accused the Thatcher government of setting out to complicate the elimination of medium-range nuclear weapons in Eastern and Western Europe. "The prime minister's refusal to go halfway toward trying to introduce a mutually binding freeze on nuclear arsenals," Labour shadow defense spokesman D. Davies said in support of his leader, "demonstrates the hypocritical nature of the government's repeated statements that it is committed to multilateral nuclear disarmament."

The attempts made by the prime minister and other cabinet members to try in some way to justify this negative stance made no impression either on Labour Party members or indeed on representatives of other opposition parties. The Tory government, Liberal Party spokesman J. Wallace stated, is "obsessed" with the idea of modernizing Britain's nuclear forces with the U.S. Trident missiles system, and this is "becoming a serious obstacle in the way of talks on achieving real disarmament in Geneva."

"In dismissing a Soviet proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons on earth in 15 years," P. Johns, chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, said, "Thatcher has set herself against all those who are working to reduce nuclear arsenals in Europe. The provocative plan to boost the destructive power of Britain's nuclear forces by buying Trident is now one of the main barriers to the establishment of arms control. With the exception of the Conservative government itself, everyone is agreed that this plan should be cancelled." Instead of taking advantage of the Soviet proposals for the systematic reduction and ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, a statement published here by the British peace assembly says, the British Government has announced its intention to continue the arms race buildup.

Many commentators here are noting the Western ruling circles' insincerity in their approach to the whole range of disarmament problems. "Honesty is a quality which is clearly lacking in the recent replies (of the West -- A.M. note) to the Soviet nuclear moratorium," notes D. Adamson, diplomatic correspondent of Britain's DAILY TELEGRAPH.

The unpopularity of the British Government's stance is so obvious that even those press organs which usually actively support Tory policy have had to dissociate themselves from it. "It is questionable that Britain should have repeated the U.S. counter proposals word for word," THE TIMES writes.

In other words, the negative stance taken on the Soviet peace program by the Thatcher government in no way reflects the prevailing mood today either in Britain itself or in the West as a whole. And for that reason it cannot be considered definitive. Many Western political and social figures are speaking and writing to that effect now.

"The Thatcher government's reply to the Soviet proposals," G. MacLennan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain, said when addressing press representatives, "will cause anger and dismay to millions of people in Britain from all walks of life and many shades of religious and political outlook. This anger needs to be turned into determination and action to force a change in British policy. The Thatcher response shows that the British Government has no independent policy at all but is merely following the U.S. line."

"The Soviet program for ridding the world of nuclear and other types of mass-destruction weapons; the well-known British politician and MP A. Benn said in conversation with me, "inspired a ray of hope among the broad masses of the British and other peoples of Western Europe. And this is a factor which will have an increasing influence on the situation in Western countries. Whatever position the governments of those countries adopt," A. Benn stressed, "they cannot totally ignore the peoples' will."

## Krivopalov Reports UK View

PM171325 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent A. Krivopalov under the rubric "On Topics of the Day": "Britain; There Is No Other Way"]

[Text] London -- People here learned with great interest of the content of the reply from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the joint message from the leaders of six countries. The USSR's decision not to carry out nuclear explosions even after 31 March -- until the first nuclear explosion in the United States -- is interpreted here as a new manifestation of good will on Moscow's part.

The British cannot fail to make comparisons. The Soviet Union's constructive, flexible position highlights the weakness, unconvincingness, and set nature of the Tory government's viewpoint on the disarmament problem. This was manifested yet again during the recent polemics in Westminister.

These polemics erupted unexpectedly recently when, during parliamentary question time, it became known that the program for Britain's nuclear missile rearmament, known as Trident 2, will cost far more than supposed even very recently. The British taxpayers will have to cough up over 500 million pounds sterling more.

Answering acute criticism in the House of Commons from opposition representatives accusing the government of virtually abandoning multilateral efforts in halting the nuclear arms race, the head of the British Government made the following statement: "Unless deterrent means are updated, they will cease to be a deterrent." As is well known, no one and nothing threatens Britain, at least from the East. But, leaving aside the question of who the British deterrent means are aimed against, it must be noted that it is obviously impossible to understand this formulation of the prime minister's as anything other than an undertaking to continue to build up nuclear armaments.

The Soviet program to eliminate nuclear weapons requires businesslike discussion. London, however, has replied to Moscow's proposal to act together to prevent a nuclear catastrophe without even consulting with Parliament.

All political echelons of the opposition are considering the 15 January Soviet statement. Sober-minded Conservatives have also been obliged to study this very important document. It is well known how the Labour Party leadership has treated it. D. Healy, foreign secretary in the Labour "shadow Cabinet," has stated in particular that the West must take advantage of M.S. Gorbachev's constructive proposals in the disarmament sphere.

The leadership of the Conservatives asserts that it is speaking for the entire British people and expressing their will. But many people in the British Isles believe that official London is acting counter to widespread sentiments.

The fact that all recent public opinion polls bear witness to the decline in M. Thatcher's personal popularity is usually explained in the country's "big press" by the Tory government's setbacks in domestic policy. But the dissatisfaction with the one-sided foreign policy course wholly oriented toward Washington to the detriment of British national interests and independence must obviously be taken into account here as well.

It is Whitehall's deeds, not its words, which compel us to think about how the fresh spring wind of change which has animated international relations and given rise to great hopes in the world seem to be counterindicated to it. Surely the pernicious climate of "cold war" and military-political confrontation is not most dear to the Toires' hearts.

## Lomeyko Addresses Newsmen

LD181719 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Attempts are continuing in the West at presenting in a distorted light the essence of the Soviet initiatives, said Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the press department of the USSR Foreign Ministry. He was addressing Soviet and foreign newsmen at the Press Center of the USSR Foreign Ministry today. Thus, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Parliament that the Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles allegedly imply that a certain number of missiles will be moved in the Far East, and these missiles, as she claimed, can certainly be sent back.

Meanwhile the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev of January 15 this year explicitly says that we favour a total elimination of Soviet and American medium-range missiles in the European zone -- both ballistic and cruise missiles as the first step of ridding Europe of nuclear weapons.

Trying to complicate the reaching of an agreement, London artificially draws here also questions of the military balance in Asia, a practical resolution of which is provided for by the Soviet programme at the corresponding stage, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

Thus, the obstacle to progress is not the Soviet stand, but the West's obvious reluctance to take the path of nuclear disarmament. A fresh proof of this has been the speech by the British prime minister.

## IZVESTIYA CITES PALME COMMISSION STATEMENT

PM181507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russia 18 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent A. Sychev under the rubric "On Topics of the Day": "Named After O. Palme"]

[Text] Stockholm -- A memorial session of the independent commission on disarmament and security issues has been held in the Swedish capital.

Taking part were Swedish Prime Minister I. Carlsson, G. Brundtland, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Norway, G.A. Arbatov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences United States and Canada Institute, former British Foreign Secretary D. Owen, and a number of other eminent politicians.

In the statement adopted during the session, the commission members expressed their profound condolences in connection with the death of Prime Minister O. Palme, who created and headed the commission. The commission will continue its work aimed at strengthening peace and cooperation between states, to which O. Palme gave his entire life.

The statement says: "In the nuclear age there is no alternative to talks and cooperation between states. Nuclear war must not be unleashed. There will be no victors in it." The commission will concentrate its activity on measures which would lead to the halting of the nuclear arms race, the consolidation of the United Nations Organization, and the strengthening of regional security, including security in Europe. The statement particularly emphasizes the urgent need to make the process of detente and cooperation irreversible.

The commission has urged the nuclear powers to conclude a treaty on the total prohibition of all nuclear tests and to declare a mutual and verifiable moratorium on tests, emphasized the need for the full observance and consolidation of the ABM treaty, and pointed to the importance of abolishing all medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. The creation in Europe of a zone free from battlefield nuclear weapons would be an important step on the path of reducing nuclear arsenals, the statement says.

The session decided to continue the work of the commission under the new name "O. Palme Commission for Disarmament and Security Issues," The commission members asked Swedish Prime Minister I. Carlsson to take the place of the chairman, expressing understanding of the difficulty involved in making a decision on this question immediately. The next Palme Commission session will be held 24-26 October this year in Budapest. It will examine questions of European security.

## IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON REAGAN LETTER ON TEST BAN

PM141353 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Yu. Bandura "International Commentary": "Washington's Nuclear Challenge; About R. Reagan's Letter to the U.S. Congress"]

[Text] In a letter sent to the U.S. Senate on 12 March, U.S. President R. Reagan confirmed the Washington administration's position on the question of a full and universal ban on nuclear tests.

Neither the introduction of a moratorium on nuclear blasts nor the ratification of the treaty on limiting underground nuclear weapons tests (signed in 1974) and the treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (signed in 1976) "accord with the interests of the United States and its allies.

This message needs no extensive interpretation. Its thrust comes down to one thing: Washington intends to continue its nuclear explosions. And consequently to continue the arms race on its most dangerous salient.

To judge from the content of the message reported by REUTER, the U.S. President put forward many "arguments" to justify this stance. But they did not include one that was not already known to the international public and has not been rejected by it as unsound.

The reference to Washington's "concern" over the problem of verification [kontrol] of explosions is also unsound. It was confirmed from the platform of the 27th CPSU Congress that the Soviet Union is open to verification and we are no less interested than others in it.

The reference to "the Soviet Union's violations of the treaties" is unsound: This "argument," repeatedly exposed as artificial and without any foundation by the Soviet side, is essentially being used by Washington to deliberately thwart the talks and to reject all existing arms limitation agreements.

The reference to "the absence of a constructive response from Moscow" to his (Reagan's -- Yu.B.) overtures to hold discussions on these problems is unsound: The White House is suggesting that we attend U.S. explosions whereas our aim is the total and universal cessation of nuclear weapons tests.

The reference to the "nonconformance" of the halting of nuclear tests with the interests of the United States and its allies is also unsound. Answering a TASS correspondent's questions in August last year, M.S. Gorbachev stressed: "The question arises: what is it here that does not accord with the interests of the United States and the American people? This path is unsuitable only for those who are gambling on strong-arm pressure, who are nurturing plans to create ever new types of nuclear weapons on earth, who have set themselves the aim of unleashing the arms race in space."

What then is the real reason for Washington's reluctance to reciprocate with regard to the Soviet moratorium, to take as a guideline the resolution recently approved by the U.S. House of Representatives and urging the White House to immediately resume talks with a view to concluding a treaty on a total and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests and submit to congress for ratification the 1974 and 1976 Soviet-U.S. treaties on underground nuclear tests? Lost in the text of the President's letter to Congress in the middle of fabricated "arguments" the reply from the head of the administration is as follows: "Today and in the foreseeable future the security of the United States and its friends and allies must be based on a reliable and effective nuclear deterrent."

But is follows from this that the present U.S. Administration is not even thinking of eliminating nuclear weapons and is continuing to be guided by the "doctrine of deterrence." It seems to sound fine. But eloquence in this case is nothing but camouflage for the doctrine which the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress described as encouraging the arms race. The U.S. President's letter is also objectively aimed at encouraging this race, confirming the White House's reluctance to take a step halfway toward the elimination of nuclear explosions from the life of mankind.

GERASIMOV ON WESTERN SINCERITY ON TEST BAN

LD152223 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Commentary by Gennadiy Gerasimov, APN political observer; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades! In the message of leaders of the six countries to the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States containing an appeal to refrain from nuclear explosions at least until the summit, there is the phrase: As long as nuclear weapons exist there can be no security in the world. It appears at first glance that there is no doubt to that; this phrase is an axiom. But listen to what the British ECONOMIST writes. It writes that even if our planet had been visited by inspectors from Mars and Venus and in this way or another they would have banned nuclear weapons, many earthlings would have thought: Is it really for the better? And they would have had questionable reasons for that.

What kind of reasons are those? In the line of reasoning of, for example, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, or U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, it appears that nuclear weapons are necessary for so-called containment [sderzhivaniye]. Accordingly, nuclear tests are also necessary, because, as Mrs Thatcher put it, if the containment forces are not modernized, they soon cease to be what they are.

Meanwhile, it was quite recently that President Reagan himself criticized the concept of nuclear containment, criticized it for being immoral. This concept treats the civilian population as hostages and envisions its annihilation in revenge for an attack. What we have as a result is not defense at all, but bloody vengeance. Now, as soon as the Soviet Union put forward a concrete program of eliminating nuclear weapons -- and by the way, Reagan maintained that such elimination was his dream -- as soon as our country introduced a moratorium on tests, as soon as other countries urged the leading nuclear powers to join the moratorium, it turned out that one cannot do without nuclear weapons; or to be more exact, it is more dangerous to live without them than with them. So, it turned out to be a u-turn.

The reason is that the test advocates' arguments have been discarded one after another. The argument concerning control, which reflects the position that the Russians cannot be trusted has been discarded -- because we are in favor of control, including participation of a third country. The argument about the U.S. backlog has also been dropped, a dishonest argument concerning the nuclear arsenals becoming outdated without periodic checks through tests has also been dropped, because it is equally applicable to the Soviet side. Now, the last line of defense is being assumed: the West needs nuclear containment. But what about the President's dream of eliminating nuclear weapons? What about his promise to strive jointly for halting the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing it from spreading to space? The issue of nuclear tests is like a litmus paper: it shows the sincerity of one's intentions.

PACT COUNTRIES SUBMIT DRAFT AGREEMENT AT MBFR TALKS

LD141737 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Announcer-read report from "The World Today" program presented by Aleksander Zholkver]

[Text] In examining problems of disarmament, some Western politicians state that one should not reduce the problem to one of atomic weapons alone, for conventional arms are not less dangerous. Here is a report on the talks at which this problem is being discussed:

For 12 years now, in Vienna, representatives of 19 central European states have been examining the question of mutual cuts in armed forces and armaments in this region. I have often been in the Vienna Hofburg Palace where the talks are being held. It was hard to establish any progress there.

But now the Warsaw Pact countries have made an attempt to get things moving. They submitted a draft agreement envisaging that in the course of a year the USSR and the United States will withdraw 11,500 and 6,500 servicemen from central Europe respectively, together with military hardware. The remaining participants in the talks would pledge not to increase for at least 3 years the personnel and armaments of their land forces and air forces in central Europe.

At a regular plenary session of the Vienna talks, the head of the USSR delegation proposed starting on the joint elaboration of the text of such an agreement.

U.S. WANTS TO DRAW ALLIES INTO SDI DEVELOPMENT

LD181050 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 18 Mar 86

["Why USA Endeavours To Draw Allies Into SDI" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Washington March 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

Attempts are being made in the U.S. capital to present the Pentagon's insistent efforts to draw the USA's allies into development efforts within the framework of the "Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI) as a manifestation of good will with regard to those countries and of concern for their security. In actual fact the Pentagon concerns itself, first of all, with a search for most-suitable-to-the-USA forms of attracting the best foreign minds, foreign capital and technology to tasks under the "star wars" program, and on such conditions which would be of benefit only to the United States. Such a directedness of the USA's "allied friendship" is confirmed by the results of the recent visits to Washington by the delegations of the FRG and Italy. The delegations consisted of representatives of the governments of those countries, scientists, and technical specialists.

They were received, in particular, by Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defence, and by Lieutenant General James Abrahamson, director of the SDI organisation.

Data which have filtered into the press indicates that U.S. intentions to "milk" its allies without committing itself in any substantial way to the observance of the commercial and technological interests of the "friends", aroused considerable misgivings among the members of the Delegations. The misgivings are that the USA's allies, counting on the promised profits from participation in the SDI, would be completely deprived of independence in the exploration and study of outer space even for peaceful purposes. They would be bound to observe utter secrecy of the development efforts, including those related to their own industries.

Commenting on the results of the visits to the USA by the delegations of the FRG and Italy, the Washington weekly DEFENCE NEWS points out precisely these problems. The weekly writes that the Italians stated that they would not assume any concrete obligations under the SDI until Washington gave firm guarantees concerning the observance of the commercial and industrial interests of its allies, as well as those concerning the observance of the copyright for inventions, discoveries, and products themselves.

Such is the commercial aspect of the matter. However, there is also another important aspect of the U.S. attempts at "getting" its allies in the SDI. The idea is to make them share responsibility for the consequences of the realisation of the SDI. In spite of Washington's assuracnes that the "star wars" program is ostensibly a "purely defensive" one, major specialists, among them American ones, on the strength of facts show that the creation and deployment of space weapon systems would sharply destabilise the strategic situation in the world and would immeasurably increase the risk of an outbreak of nuclear war. Should that occur, Washington would like to have grounds to tell its allies: "Dear friends, we have been in this together, so mum's the word!"

Would not it be better for everyone jointly to secure that space weapon systems are never created and, still less, orbited? This is precisely what the Soviet Union is suggesting, striving to prevent an upsetting of stability in the world, a transfer of the arms race to outer space, and a growth of the threat of an all-out nuclear disaster. There is still time to secure that.

FRENCH REPORT CONCLUDES SDI PLANS 'UNREALISTIC'

PM131537 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 86 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "The Pentagon Intends To Continue"]

[Text] Washington, 11 Mar -- According to U.S. press reports, within Pentagon circles attention has been drawn to a report on "star wars" published by the French Defense Ministry's respected Space Armaments Commission. The report's main conclusion is that the creation of a "space shield" using the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative" is unrealistic.

The commission, headed by J.F. Delpech, a leader of the National Scientific Research Center, includes specialists from the Defense Ministry, the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Space Research Center, and a number of other leading French research centers and institutions.

Analyzing in detail the "arguments" of the supporters of the creation [sozdaniye] of an ABM system with space-based elements, French specialists state that even if the creation [sozdaniye] of "permanently operating lasers" is possible in around 10 years, "future ballistic missiles could be quite easily defended against them." The creation [sozdaniye] of other types of weapons based on the principles of directed energy is "problematic" in the view of the report's authors. The space-based ABM system itself "will undoubtedly be highly vulnerable both to another analogous system and to anti-satellite weapons deployed on earth," the report notes.

Nevertheless, the Pentagon envisages a further acceleration of the work to create [sozdaniye] space strike arms. As Lieutenant General J. Abrahamson, director of the "star wars" program, has stated in the U.S. Congress, it is planned in the next fiscal year to accelerate the creation [sozdaniye] of a space plane which will be able to put armaments into near-earth orbit and independently carry out the functions of a space strike weapon as well as working in the laser weapon sphere. According to Abrahamson, the first stage of work under the SDI program is complete, and it is now planned to study more carefully the problems connected with it.

PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS' SESSION OPENS IN WARSAW

LD191133 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw March 19 TASS -- A regular meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries that opened here today is discussing questions pertaining to the situation in Europe in the light of the over-all state of international relations and prospects for their development.

The meeting is attended by Petr Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, Bohuslav Chnoupek, minister of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, Oskar Fischer, minister of foreigh affairs of the G.D.R., Peter Varkonyi, minister of foreign affairs of Hungary, Marian Orzechowski, minister of foreign affairs of Poland, Ilie Vaduva, minister of foreign affairs of Romania, and Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R.

SHISHLIN ON PACT FOREIGN POLICY COORDINATION

LD170416 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Talk by political observer Nikolay Shishlin]

[Text] In the area of foreign policy, strengthening cooperation with socialist countries has been and remains a priority direction of Soviet foreign policy. This is confirmed both in the Political Report of the party Central Committee and in the Basic Guidelines for Social and Economic Development of our country for the period of the upcoming 5-year plan, which, properly speaking, we have already begun, and for the period up to the year 2000. A significant part of the Soviet Union's domestic operations is linked to the efforts of other socialist states, especially in such important directions as accelerating scientific and technical progress, raising production efficiency, and furthering socialist economic integration.

That is to say, our domestic plans do not simply have something in common with the plans of our friends and allies -- they are an integrated part of the creative work that is being carried out in other socialist countries. Of course, this priority direction of Soviet foreign policy -- strengthening cooperation with socialist states -- is quite tangibly in operation in international affairs.

It should be said directly that the Soviet initiatives -- large-scale, all-encompassing, directed at a radical improvement of the international situation -- are a result of that huge coordination work carried out by the socialist countries within the framework of the Warsaw Pact Organization, within the framework of bilateral contacts on the implementation of a common strategic policy in international affairs that is calculated to restrain the arms race, prevent the transfer of the arms race into space, and decisively improve the international situation. Of course, an integral part of Soviet foreign policy efforts is the line that is carried out by socialist countries in individual regions -- the line aimed at turning the European Continent into a continent of peace and peaceful cooperation; those actions that are undertaken to improve the situation in the Asian and Pacific zone; those steps that are taken to extinguish the planet's flashpoints [goryachiye tochki], and improve the situation in, let us say, Central America itself.

And that status -- the fact that Soviet foreign policy comprises an integral part of the common strategic policy of the countries of the socialist community -- naturally gives it even more force and efficacy [deystvennost] and makes this policy a progressive one to the highest degree.

ARBATOV HOPES PALME COMMISSION WILL CONTINUE

PM181417 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 15 Mar 86 p 9

[Ove Saverman report: "Continued Struggle for Freedom: A Tribute to Palme"]

[Excerpt] Arlanda -- "Many Swedes now probably understand that you never become a prophet in your own country," the Soviet member of the Palme Commission, Georgiy Arbatov, said on arrival at Arlanda yesterday evening.

"Creating peace between countries with diametrically opposed political systems is a problem of survival, and few realized this as did Olof Palme," said Arbatov, who sees a future for the commission even after Palme's death. An informal meeting will now be held in Stockholm, since the commission's members are gathered here.

"We must finish the work. But it will not be finished in my lifetime -- not even in that of my children," Georgiy Arbatov said at Arlanda.

OREKHOV REVIEWS WEEK'S WORLD EVENTS

PM161701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Boris Orekhov "International Review"]

[Text] Beacon of Hope

It is commonly said that big things can be seen best from far away. But this saying hardly applies to the Soviet Communists' 27th congress whose impact is currently affecting the world. There is no need for great distances in time or space to assess its historic significance. And it is already being assessed by the peoples as historic. The pages of all countries' newspapers are full of reactions to the congress. The subject of the congress fills the airwaves. The congress' ideas and decisions, which mark important milestones in the present crucial stage in international development, are commented on in dozens of languages. The commentators agree that these ideas and decisions will do much to determine the content of world policy and the course of affairs on our planet at the end of this century and the beginning of the next.

"Socialism and peace are synonymous," one foreign guest at the congress, for instance, said, sharing his impressions of its work. You could hardly put it more concisely and accurately. The 27th CPSU Congress once again convincingly demonstrated the indivisibility of socialism and peace, peace and creation, and once again showed everyone that the main aim of Soviet policy is a secure and just peace for all the peoples.

The congress' influence on the frame of mind of people in various countries, people belonging to various political parties professing various views of life and politics, can hardly be overstated.

As is usual in such cases, forces hostile to the cause of peace and imperialist circles tried to do everything possible to distract the world public's attention from the Soviet Communists' forum, to minimize its significance, and to find flies in the ointment. But life has demonstrated the futility of these attempts. The magnetic force of the ideas of peace and the peoples' security, nuclear disarmament, and the prevention of the placing of weapons in space is really getting through to many millions of people and winning their minds. This too is a considerable merit of the congress.

The significance, for instance, of a Soviet initiative like the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions is clear to any unprejudiced person. Let us recall that the moratorium went into effect on 6 August last year. Guided by the interests of peace, the Soviet Union extended the term of the moratorium, which expired 31 December last year, for a further 3 months, once again proposing that the United States join in this initiative.

Recently, while the Soviet moratorium is still in effect, the leaders of six countries--Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden, and Tanzania -- have appealed to the USSR and U.S. leaders to refrain from nuclear tests until the holding of the planned summit meeting, and have offered to give assistance in observing seismic activity in the region of tests.

The appeal of the six was greeted with approval by sober-minded Western politicians. Even in Washington a large group of congressmen came out in support of it. The opinion of these legislators is based on the support of millions of American citizens who have launched a nationwide campaign with the aim of making the administration join in the cessation of nuclear explosions.

As for the Soviet Union's position, its consistency and peaceful thrust were once again confirmed in the response to the appeal from the six state leaders which M.S. Gorbachev gave on behalf of the Soviet leadership. The Soviet Union stated that it will not carry out nuclear explosions even after 31 March -- until the first nuclear explosion in the United States.

The Soviet response contains a proposal to the American side to reach agreement on granting the opportunity for observers from both sides, on a reciprocal basis and following appropriate requests, to visit the sites of obscure phenomena so as to remove any possible doubts as to whether such phenomena are associated with nuclear explosions.

In order to fully solve the problem of tests, what is needed is a treaty banning nuclear weapon tests on an international legal basis. The USSR proposes setting about elaborating such a treaty without delay and resuming or commencing relevant talks in any form -- bilateral, trilateral, or multilateral, without linking this to other issues.

The Soviet leadership's businesslike and concrete response to the appeal by the six countries' leaders is eloquent evidence that the USSR is doing, and will continue to do, everything necessary to transfer the resolution of the urgent problem of ending nuclear tests onto a practical footing and to achieve the total elimination of nuclear arsenals. Aware of its responsibility for the peoples' fate, the Soviet Union will persistently implement its peace program, which has become a beacon of hope for mankind.

But how is the United States behaving? Finding itself in a difficult position, the Washington Administration is trying to extricate itself, resorting to maneuvers and subterfuge. What else could you call President Reagan's statement, issued by the White House, setting forth the supposedly "new" U.S. proposal? It is clear from news agency reports that the President is offering the Soviet side only the discussion of the technical problems of "verification" ["proverka"] of the Soviet-U.S. treaties that were concluded in 1974 and 1976 and have not yet been ratified, through the fault of the American side. The retification of these treaties, which should have taken place long ago, is now being made dependent on the results of such a discussion.

Moreover, it is proposed that the Soviet Union send scientists to observe the American nuclear weapon tests planned for the 3d week in April. Thus once again, instead of stopping nuclear explosions, as manking demands, they are proposing the observation of the carrying out of such explosions. The Soviet Union has already expressed its view on this: We are in favor of monitoring [kontrol] the end of nuclear explosions, but we are against continuing tests in the presence of observers as a substitute for ending them.

Concerning Reagan's "proposal," THE NEW YORK TIMES writes: "This seems to be an attempt to divert criticism by Congress and certain foreign capitals of the fact that the U.S. Administration has ignored the Soviet proposals on ending underground nuclear tests."

Yes, this is clearly a base ploy.

Fulbright Springs to Mind

A vote is scheduled for 19 March, in the U.S. House of Representatives on the question of granting military aid to the tune of $100 million, as requested by President R. Reagan, to the Nicaraguan rebels, or "contras," as they are also called.

"The most prominent advertising agency in Washington today is the firm 'Reagan, Weinberger, Shultz, and Speakes,' at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue," James Reston, the old man of American journalism, writes sarcastically in this connection in THE NEW YORK TIMES. "They are now engaged in a major campaign with the aim of convincing Congress and the American people that Nicaragua is a danger to the United States and that unless they receive $100 million for the 'freedom fighters' who are defending the U.S. border, then Moscow and Havana will threaten the security and democracy of the Western Hemisphere."

Reston's sarcasm is easily understood. Just think: The leaders of the world's mightiest capitalist state are shouting "help" and asking for America to be defended against the threat represented by the small and not very close-at-hand Nicaragua!

Nicaragua is clearly visible to everyone. There are no foreign bases there, nor is there a concentrations of foreign troops. There are only the people, who have won freedom and independence and want to be left in peace and allowed to live and work peacefully and to follow their chosen path. But free Nicaragua today is a thorn in American imperialism's flesh.

R. Reagan publicly glorifies the Nicaraguan "contras" as "freedom fighters," and G. Shultz calls them "the good guys." Many of these people were officers and soldiers in the National Guard under Somoza, who plundered Nicaragua for 45 years. The U.S. Administration states that the "contras" are a "model of respect for human rights." It is hard to imagine greater cynicism. "The well considered policy of the 'contras' is terror against the civilian population," says Chamorro, a former leader of the main organization of the "contras" who broke with the rebels last year.

But Washington does not confine itself to praising the "contras." Tension is constantly maintained on Nicaragua's borders. Following the provocative exercises carried out not long ago by U.S. naval forces off Nicaragua's coasts, a new series of maneuvers is beginning near the country's land borders, with the participation of American and Honduran Armed Forces.

It is reasonable to ask: What would happen, how would Washington react, if military exercises with the participation of foreign armed forces like those being organized in Honduras today were to take place, say, near the American-Canadian or the American-Mexican border? You can imagine the extent of the hysteria that would afflict those who have today raised their big stick over Nicaragua, intoxicated by their apparent impunity.

The arrogance of strength, as Senator Fulbright once called the leitmotiv of American foreign policy, is today being demonstrated by Washington on various continents. In Central America it is Nicaragua. In Africa, it is Angola, on whose territory bloody piracy is carried out by bandits from UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], whose ringleader was recently received with honor and kindness in the White House. In Asia, it is Afghanistan, whose inhabitants are terrorized by killings, arson attacks, and sabotage by dushmans equipped in Pakistan with U.S. money. It is the same practically everywhere. Wherever there is counterrevolution, wherever the past raises its head, look for American imperialism.

The desire for diktat is manifested everywhere in U.S. foreign policy. Take the sphere of international organizations: Here too American diplomacy is trying to impose its will on others.

Is not that revealed by the American authorities' recent act, which has aroused the legitimate indignation of the world community? I refer to the U.S. Government's illegal demand concerning a reduction in the numbers of personnel at the permanent missions of the USSR and a number of other UN members at the headquarters of that international organization in New York. This act was naturally greeted as arbitrary, unjustified, and a gross violation by the United States of its commitment, undertaken in its capacity as the host country for UN central agencies, to ensure the necessary conditions for the normal activity of the United Nations and the unhampered participation of member states in the organization's work.

Morality and policy. These concepts are closely interlinked. The policy of imperial arrogance, permissiveness, and solving your own problems at the expense of other states and to their detriment is profoundly immoral. It reeks of the Stone Age, when the main concern was to acquire a bigger stick or a heavier stone. The aggressive international behavior of U.S. imperialism, the growing militarization of its policy and way of thinking, and its disregard for others' interests inevitably lead to its moral and political isolation and the widening of the gulf between it and all the rest of mankind.

## When the Votes Were Counted

Spain was the focus of political observers' attention last week. A nationwide referendum was held there 12 March on the question of the country's NATO membership. It was preceded by a long, anxious political struggle.

The ruling Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE] found itself in the limelight. And here is why. Before coming to power the PSOE leadership explained to the Spaniards, very convincingly, that NATO membership does not meet the country's national interests, limits its sovereignty, and leads to increasing subordination to the United States. These statements were made during the prolonged debate over NATO membership, which began nearly 4 years ago after the previous government took Spain into the bloc. Even then the majority of Spaniards demanded a national referendum on whether or not the country should be in NATO.

It was then that the PSOE, in the election program with which it went into the parliamentary elections in the fall of 1982, promised the Spaniards to put the resolution of this urgent question to a referendum.

But the parliamentary elections, won by the PSOE, receded into the past. The attitude of the PSOE leaders toward participation in NATO underwent an unexpected and striking evolution. Participation in NATO, they now try to convince people, "meets the country's national interests."

Nor was there any lack of political cunning. In order to urge voters to say "yes" in the referendum, the Socialists publicized in every way the idea that there is only one alternative to Spain's NATO membership. The government, they said, on leaving NATO, will be forced to orient itself onesidedly toward the United States. This thesis was clearly put forward with an eye to the growing anti-American sentiments in the country.

The fierce propagandist indoctrination of people and the farfetched arguments (such as that a victory for NATO's opponents would affect the level of employment, since it would lead to a reduction in foreign capital investments in the country's economy) worked. The unconcealed pressure exerted on Spain by NATO leaders also played its part. On the results of the referendum, the supporters of NATO membership prevailed, albeit by only a small margin.

Nonetheless the results of the referendum give grounds for speaking of a growth in sober sentiments among the country's population, a growth in their consciousness. Practically 40 percent of participants in the referendum voted against NATO. This is a sufficiently substantial figure to indicate the widespread anti-NATO sentiments in the country and the positive changes in the Spaniards' views.

Yes, the Atlanticists got their way this time. But it will now be difficult for Madrid to act, especially in the foreign policy sphere, without taking account of the sentiments of those millions of Spaniards who on 12 March said "no!" to NATO.

## UKRAINE'S REPRESENTATION TO UN OPPOSES STAFF CUTS

AU171248 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 14 Mar 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Ukrainian SSR Note Presented To UN General Secretary"]

[Text] New York -- G. I. Udovenko, Ukrainian SSR permanent representative to the UN, visited UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, and handed him -- for dissemination as an official document of the UN General Assembly -- the text of the note addressed by the Ukrainian SSR permanent UN representation to the U.S. mission in the UN concerning the U.S. Government's illegal request to reduce the number of personnel of the Ukrainian SSR permanent representation to the UN in New York. Within UN headquarters, the Ukrainian SSR permanent representation to the UN has disseminated a press release with the text of the note.

U.S. SEEKS ADVANTAGE IN WORLD OCEAN RESOURCES

LD172344 Moscow TASS in English 2204 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 17 TASS -- A session of the preparatory commission for an international sea bed body and the international law of the sea tribunal has opened in Kingston, the capital of Jamaica, today. The delegates to the session, which is to last till mid-April, are to discuss the course of the drafting of the rules to govern the development of sea bed resources. The work of the commission is particularly topical now that in violation of the international law of the sea convention, which has been approved by 159 states, the USA has set out to ensure unilateral advantages for itself in using world ocean resources. Thus, Washington granted licences for prospecting for manganese ore deposits in the Pacific and has thus arrogated itself the functions and powers of the preparatory commission. These actions are viewed in the U.N. circles as U.S. policy aimed at undermining the convention and creating a situation of arbitrary rule in the world ocean.

## BLACK SEA INCIDENT PART OF U.S. 'SPYING OPERATION'

LD190944 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] New York, 19 Mar (TASS) -- The violation of the USSR state border in the Black Sea by the U.S. warships was carried out within the framework of yet another large-scale spying operation of the United States against the USSR with complete approval of the Reagan administration.

This is reported by THE NEW YORK TIMES today, with reference to official Pentagon representatives. As admitted by these official representatives, one of the purposes of this deliberate action was to "gather intelligence information" about the USSR and its Armed Forces. With this purpose in mind, numerous eavesdropping devices and other electronic equipment was installed on board the cruiser Yorktown and the destroyer Caron.

The order to carry out this provocative operation -- as has been reported by the Pentagon representatives -- was given directly by the Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces on behalf of Defense Secretary Weinberger.

## LOMEYKO ADDRESSES FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFING

### Views Western Reaction to Congress

LD181713 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- The Soviet initiative directed at establishing a comprehensive system of international security have been approved by the world public but have not met support on the part of the United States and its NATO allies, Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, has pointed out. He was addressing a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists at the Press Centre of the Soviet Foreign Ministry today.

The leaders of Western powers, above all the United States, are looking for arguments against accords on the problems set out in Mikhail Gorbachev's January 15 statement and the CPSU Central Committee's Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress.

In response to the Soviet proposal for starting in April this year bilateral talks for comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons testing, the U.S. President offered Soviet scientists to visit the United States to measure the yield of a nuclear explosion. The offer is nothing but a rehash of his old ideas on on-site verifications of the yield of nuclear explosions that were rejected by the Soviet Union as being directed at legalizing nuclear testing. Affirming the need for concerted efforts in the search for ways to resolve regional conflicts is an important element of the Political Report's concept of an all-embracing system of international security.

The U.S. leadership reacted in a rather peculiar way to the concept, Lomeyko said. Several days ago, the U.S. President sent a special message to Congress on issues of regional security in which he sought to find moral justification and build a theoretical basis under the policy of unceremonious interference in the affairs of sovereign countries and peoples. The President resorted to anti-Soviet invectives in a bid to mask the policy of state-sponsored terrorism pursued, specifically, with regard to Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola and Middle East countries.

The entire package of issues of Soviet-American relations, including in the field of security, is geared to the solution of regional problems on the administration's terms. Those who are kindling regional tension, the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized, would like to use the presence of flashpoints in the world as an argument against improving relations with the Soviet Union, as justification of its reluctance to give a constructive reply to the detailed programme of nuclear disarmament advanced by the 27th CPSU Congress.

### Decries U.S. Interference

LD181927 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1630 GMT 18 Mar 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry a briefing took place today on current questions of Soviet foreign policy and international relations. Speaking at it, Comrade Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, made a statement noting in particular that the Soviet initiatives aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear war and creating an all-embracing international security system, which were heard at the 27th CPSU Congress, are meeting with the broadest support among the international public.

At the same time, the statements of many officials both in Washington and in other NATO capitals attest to the fact that for their part there is still clear reluctance to respond constructively to these proposals. Comrade Lomeyko also noted that the assertion of the need for a joint quest for a resolution of regional conflicts is an important component of the concept of an all-embracing system of international security proposed by the 27th CPSU Congress.

However, the U.S. Administration is pursuing a policy of unceremonious interference in the affairs of sovereign states and peoples. At present, a request has been sent to Congress for the allocation of a major sum for aid to the Nicaraguan contras. The United States in continuing to allocate funds for the activities of bandit formations operating against democratic Afghanistan.

[Begin Lomeyko recording] We regard this as a manifestation of a policy of neoglobalism, a policy claiming the right to interfere in the affairs of sovereign peoples, to justify by word and deed the new doctrine of globally guaranteeing vital interests, which interests in any point of the globe are deemed to be if this suits Washington. [end recording]

Replies were made to journalists' questions.

## REPORTAGE ON REAGAN-MULRONEY TALKS IN WASHINGTON

### Future of NORAD Discussed

LD190945 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnevreports:

Talks have been held in the White House between President Reagan and Prime Minister of Canada B. Mulroney who arrived here for an official visit.

The problem of the prolongation of the bilateral agreement on the North American Air Defense (NORAD) was foremost on the agenda of the talks. The point is that the Pentagon plans to actively use in its "star wars" program various facilities that have been created or are to be created there within the framework of NORAD. These plans cause grave anxiety in Ottawa. According to a UPI report, the Canadian Government insisted on including in the new agreement the item that would rule out Canada's participation in the active anti-ballistic missile system.

However, the demands of Ottawa were rejected by Washington. Speaking about the results of the talks between Reagan and Mulroney, a high-ranking representative of the administration made it clear that the new agreement on NORAD due to be signed in Washington Wednesday would not contain any special items. Apart from it, as it follows from the statements made by Reagan himself, the U.S. expects Canada to "live up to its NATO commitments", in other words, to unconditionally follow the militaristic course imposed on it by Washington.

Not all went smoothly during the visit of the Canadian prime minister to the U.S. for instance, on the insistence of Washington the situation in Central America was not discussed, because the differences over this problem were so acute that a discussion of it in the White House could well turn into a heated argument. Canada refuses to support the U.S. adventuristic policy with regard to Nicaragua and opposes the interference in the affairs of Central America and the militarization of the region.

The discussion of the questions connected with bilateral trade relations which are characterized, among other things, by the toughening of protectionist trends in the U.S., brought no surprises.

### Canada To Continue Nicaragua Aid

LD182246 Moscow TASS in English 2231 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada, who is currently on an official visit here, told newsmen that his government would continue economic aid to Nicaragua. Contrary to the powerful pressure by Washington, which is seeking economic isolation of the Sandinist revolution, Canada, as is known, maintains broad economic and trade ties with Nicaragua. The readiness to carry out these ties, which has been reaffirmed by Ottawa, is the more noteworthy against the background of the unbridled anti-Nicaraguan campaign being carried out by Washington in an attempt at getting congressional approval for its request for a broadening of military aid to the terrorist contras gangs.

## U.S. NAVAL MANEUVERS OFF LIBYA REPORTED, VIEWED

### U.S. Planning 'Major' Move

LD190744 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 19 Mar 86

["Preparations for Provocation" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- The United States is about to stage a major act of armed provocation against Libya. The CBS TV company reports that within the next two days the America aircraft carrier will enter the Mediterranean and join there two naval squadrons, led by the Saratoga and Coral Sea aircraft carriers, off the Libyan coast.

According to the TV company, the U.S. naval armada will carry out manoeuvres on a larger scale than usual with the purpose of provoking the Libyan Armed Forces and securing a pretext for an outright military strike at Libyan territory. The TV company quotes and American official as saying that Washington just talked in the past but now is fully ready to act. According to the American press, the Pentagon has long defined targets and objectives for such a strike. Judging by the TV company's report, at present the U.S. special and propaganda services are working on "substantiation" for an armed action against Libya.

PRAVDA Commentary

PM181051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

["Our commentary" by Yuriy Vladimirov: "Playing With Fire"]

[Text] From Friday through Sunday U.S. naval maneuvers were held in the Mediterranean near the Gulf of Sidra, off the Libyan coast, the third such maneuvers in less than 3 months. Foreign agencies, citing informed Pentagon circles, write that the latest round of militarist hustle and bustle could be a prelude to even bigger naval games that would involve more than 40 warships; 30 of them, including the aircraft carriers Saratoga and Coral Sea, are permanently kept by the R. Reagan administration in direct proximity to Libyan territorial waters, and 10, headed by the aircraft carrier America, are speeding across the Atlantic to the Mediterranean. The entire armada is gradually assembling to rehearse methods of safeguarding "U.S. national security"...thousands of kilometers away from its borders.

The gulf between the economic and military potentials of the United States and the Libyan Jamahiriyah clearly shows that U.S. fabrications about a "threat from Libya" are groundless and absurd. The aggressive preparations by the strongest capitalist power against a developing country with a population of barely more than 3 million are not due to this "threat" at all. Washington is infuriated by Libya's anti-imperialist course in the international arena and its opposition to plans for "American-style peacemaking" in the Middle East.

So, the United States, for the edification of other unruly states, is threatening to "make an example of obstinate" Libya. The United States has sometimes tried to justify its saber-rattling off the Libyan coast by using some farfetched excuse: protection of U.S. experts working in Libyan oilfields, accusations of Libyan involvement in terrorist acts, and so forth. On this occasion, Washington is once again flexing "military muscles" without even inventing a pretext.

Such actions can only be described as a manifestation of U.S. "neoglobalism." And they are being perpetrated by a power that calls itself a champion of "peace," an advocate of a political settlement of the situation in the world's "hot spots." Even the closest U.S. allies have indirectly admitted that Washington's anti-Libyan policy is dangerous. Both Libyans and world public opinion condemn the White House practice of playing with fire in the southern Mediterranean.

U.S. IGNORES EEC PROTEST NOTE ON UN POLICY

LD181858 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 18 86

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- The United States conducts a policy of outright blackmail and threats against the United Nations, is going back on obligations assumed under international agreements, tries to undermine the very system of international relations.

This fact, long since obvious to most members of the world community, has now been recognized by a large group of West European states, allies of the USA.

As the ASSOCIATED PRESS reports, the 12 EEC member countries sent a note to the U.S. Department of State. It is stressed in the note that the United States is not fulfilling its financial obligations under the United Nations Charter in full, since it does not contribute its due share to the United Nations budget.

It is said in the note that the 12 Common Market countries are seriously concerned that the violation of the agreement due to the reduction of the U.S. contributions to the United Nations undermines the mainstays of international order. They urged the U.S. Government to take the necessary measures to implement its international obligations to the United Nations Organization.

But by all indications Washington intends to ignore the calls of the allies, just as it had earlier ignored more than once similar just demands of many other U.N. member countries and also of the United Nations leadership, including United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The 12 EEC member countries made a request to official Washington for a special meeting of their representatives with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Washington's stand with regard to the United Nations. But all their efforts have been futile. George Shultz has been avoiding such a meeting for three weeks now.

In this connection the ASSOCIATED PRESS quotes a West European diplomat as saying that George Shultz is prepared to meet Savimbi (head of the terrorist splitter group UNITA [The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], which is striving to overthrow the lawful government of the People's Republic of Angola -- TASS edit.), but he has no wish to meet the United States chief European allies.

Commenting on the conflict between the USA and its West European allies on the question of the attitude to the United Nations Organization, observers note that this is quite a natural phenomenon. The refusal of the U.S. Administration to heed the opinion of even its allies shows once again that by its policy hostile to the United Nations the USA opposed itself to entire international community.

REAGAN'S SPEECH ON CONTRA AID CRITICIZED

LD181359 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Reagan, in his Sunday speech on television, found similarities between the attacks by the Nicaraguan contras against the Sandinist government and the struggle the British people waged agai t Nazi Germany in World War II, he added: It makes me a contra, too. Here's our comment.

This is not the first statement by the President that has amazed many. However, when the President links himself to the contras, who gained worldwide notoriety by their atrocities, or when he puts them next to the founding fathers, it's his business after all. The only thing one can be surprised at is the degree of Mr Reagan's disrespect for his people and for the history of his country which makes it possible for him to draw such parallels.

But when the President compares the Somoza thugs and their massacres of civilians in Nicaragua with the French resistance and the struggle of the British people against fascist Germany, this is something different. Such statements are evidence that the White House, in a bid to make Congress release $100 million in aid to the contras, is prepared to go to great lengths. One is bound to ask: What is the aim of Mr Reagan's rhetoric, since the latest statements by high ranking administration officials make it absolutely clear that, for the White House, no price is too great when it comes to attempts to overthrow the Sandinists? This seems to be precisely what Congress is afraid of. Many lawmakers believe that the $100 million requested by President Reagan are only the beginning of more radical steps along these lines. The American intelligence has said that no aid will be able to win victory for the contras, so the lawmakers fear that the fight against the Daniel Ortega government can become for the administration a cause of principle and prestige and that the only way of saving it would be to send the Marines.

Concern in Congress has grown still further since the Pentagon has announced that it's going to send military advisers to Honduras to train detachments of contras. It's easy to imagine what course the events would take if this happened. First, the advisers would train the contras, then they would take a limited part in combat operations, then their number would gradually increase and finally they'd be able to form independent combat contingents. This scenario is reminiscent of Vietnam, where American interference began with military aid and the sending of advisers. It seems that the lawmakers' minds are more occupied by such thoughts than President Reagan's reflections on what, in his view, are the virtues of the contras and the sins of the Sandinists. The more so since every argument the President has used flies in the face of the facts, including such minor issues as his accusations against the Sandinist leadership of drug trafficking. The SAN FRANCISCO INQUIRER has said it's been found that it's not the Sandinists that go in for that sort of shady deeds but the President's best friends, the contras. It appears that President Reagan had made a hasty step when he likened himself to them.

## 'MAJOR DEFEAT' FOR REAGAN BUDGET PROPOSALS NOTED

PM151529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Blow Against the Budget"]

[Text] Washington, 14 Mar -- The draft U.S. federal budget for fiscal 1987 submitted to Congress by the Reagan administration has suffered its first major defeat.

On Thursday it was rejected by the House of Representatives by 312 votes to 12. As is well known, the draft budget provides for an increase in U.S. military spending to the unprecedentedly high sum of $320.3 billion. At the same time programs for vitally necessary social appropriations, on which the existence of millions of Americans depends, are being cut.

Speaking before the vote, Congressman David Obey (Democrat, from Wisconsin) stated that the draft proposed by the administration is a "mockery of a budget" that can in no way be considered a responsible approach to the country's problems. Moreover, even Robert Michel, leader of the Republican minority in the House of Representatives, who is close to the White House, called the draft budget elaborated by the administration "unrealistic."

Although major battles around the federal budget for the next fiscal year still lie ahead for Congress, observers consider the outcome of the vote in the House of Representatives to be highly symbolic.

It demonstrated that more and more legislators are registering a "vote of no confidence" in the policy of frenziedly increasing military spending at the expense of the interests of a broad strata of Americans. As a report issued here by the research group of the Democratic Party faction in the House of Representatives points out, the draft budget provides for an immediate reduction of $13 billion in the most important domestic programs. In particular, appropriations for the needs of health care and education are being substantially cut, as is financial aid to the elderly and disabled.

GORBACHEV ECONOMIC PLAN 'CHALLENGE' TO U.S. VIEWED

LD160402 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 15 Mar 86

["Moscow Viewpoint" commentary by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] When I was looking through U.S. press comment on the recent congress of the Soviet Communists, my attention was drawn to a remark in the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE that some Americans wonder whether Gorbachev's economic plan is a challenge to America. By challenge, they mostly mean a military threat, a charge no closer to reality than the hackneyed claim of a Soviet threat.

Since it was setting out to double its production potential within 15 years, this country decided to double its spending on social and cultural needs, too. This program, adopted at the Communist Party congress, is meant to speed up economic growth in order to improve the quality of life for the people. As Mikhail Gorbachev told the congress, socialism rejects war unconditionally as a means of settling political and economic differences and ideological disputes between states. Our ideal, he added, is a world without weapons and violence, a world in which every nation can freely choose a way of development and a way of life. But what, then, has frightened the Americans, as the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE writes? What kind of challenge to they see in the Soviet economic program? Perhaps they simply hate to part with one of their favorite doctrines, designed to wear down the Soviet economy in an arms race. Washington has hoped for a long time to bring the Soviet Union to an economic and political disaster by forcing it to spend ever greater sums on the arms race. Successive U.S. administrations, including the present one, have for years fueled the arms race, trying to get military advantages; but the Soviet Union has managed to maintain a military-strategic balance by taking countermeasures.

The U.S. policy of arms buildup has had two economic effects. One is that the Soviet economy, despite being forced to carry the heavy burden of military spending, is in such a state that the Soviet leaders can make plans to boost economic growth and thus raise the people's standard of living. The other is that America's excessive military spending has caused its federal debts to leap high above the $1 trillion mark. The budget deficit has become not only an acute economic problem, but a political one as well. America's trade deficit is at a record high. American goods are becoming less and less competitive. Cutbacks in social programs lead more and more Americans to lose jobs and sink below the official poverty line. The challenge to the Soviet Union made by Washington in the early eighties has hit back like a boomerang. If the arms race continues and spreads to outer space, this will be the ruin of not the Soviet Union, as Washington thinks, but of the entire world, including the United States itself. In a resolution adopted at their congress, the Soviet Communists point to the increasingly urgent demand arising from the course of history and social progress that states and peoples cooperate in a constructive, creative spirit on a global scale. The real dialectic of the world's modern development lies in combining the competition, the historic antagonism between the two systems with a growing trend toward the states of the world community becoming dependent on each other. But the realization of this requires a new kind of political thinking.

## ZHAO ZIYANG RECEIVES ARKHIPOV FOR TALKS

LD181553 Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Beijing March 18 TASS -- Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, premier of the State Council of the Chinese People's Republic Zhao Ziyang today received in Zhongnanhai Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

During the conversation the sides expressed satisfaction over a substantial progress in the development of commercial, economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic over the recent years. Mutual confidence has been expressed that the results of the first meeting of the Soviet-Chinese Commission on Economic, Commercial, Scientific and Technical Cooperation will give strong impetus for advance in these spheres. The sides noted that there exist vast potentials for the further widening of mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries.

Ivan Arkhipov spoke about the work of the 27th CPSU Congress, about historic importance of the decisions of the party forum for all aspects of the life of the Soviet people, for ultimate removal of the threat of nuclear war. It was stressed that the congress had confirmed again the Soviet Union's consistent striving to improve relations with the Chinese People's Republic, to widen versatile cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples.

The head of the Chinese Government said that of much interest is the course at the speeding up of the Soviet Union's social and economic development worked out at the 27th CPSU Congress. He noted that the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, the two great neighbouring socialist countries, have much in common in the system of economic management and that it would be useful to establish the exchange of experience and information in this sphere.

## LI XIANNIAN ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO CAIRO

LD181408 Moscow TASS In English 1335 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo March 18 TASS -- The continued explosive situation in the Middle East is due to Israel's aggressive expansionist policy which is hampering the process of peaceful settlement in the Middle East, said Li Xiannian, chairman of the People's Republic of China, now here on an official visit. He stressed that China supports the Arab peoples, including the people of Palestine, in their just struggle to recover the Israeli-occupied territories and comes out for the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices and with the participation of all the sides concerned. The Palestine problem lies at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict and its solution is a must for reestablishing peace and tranquility in the region.

The PRC chairman said that all mankind is interested in easing international tensions and establishing a lasting peace on earth. In this connection we welcome the resumption of the USSR-U.S. dialogue in the hope that these talks will lead to the conclusion of agreements expected by all countries and peoples.

## ANNIVERSARY OF DPRK COOPERATION PACT NOTED, VIEWED

### Soiree Marks Anniversary

PM171525 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Public Soiree"]

[Text] A public soiree was held in Moscow on 14 March to mark the 37th anniversary of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK.

This document, the speakers stressed, is making a great contribution to the expansion of bilateral relations. Soviet people have always supported and continue to support the DPRK's persistent efforts aimed at their motherland's peaceful democratic union and the relaxation of international tension in the region and throughout the world.

Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, noted that his country's people sincerely treasure friendship with the Soviet Union and will continue to make every effort to deepen it. He rated highly the USSR's peace initiatives.

### Vasilyev Comments

SK181135 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Commentary by station commentator Vasilyev]

[Text] Today marks the 37th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. This agreement, signed on the basis of the principles of complete equality, mutual benefit, and comradely mutual assistance and support, was the first of the agreements that independent Korea concluded with foreign countries.

This agreement, signed in the glorious chronicle of Soviet-Korean friendship, was the start of the important phase that opened the road of developing relations between the two countries. In fact, this agreement was the first epochal agreement for long-range ties between the two countries.

In accordance with provisions stipulated in this agreement, a series of other documents dealing with ties between the two countries in the economic and trade fields were signed.

Over the period of 37 years, cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea has been invariably developed and deepened in a planned manner. It has also greatly contributed to successfully developing social construction in the two countries.

This agreement has been vividly embodied in scores of plants built in the DPRK with Soviet aid. Some of these plants are such modern, large-scale industrial plants as the Kim Chaek iron works, the Pukchang thermal power plant, the Hamhung fertilizer plant, a small-type motor manufacturing plant, [name indistinct] plant, and the modern port at Najin.

Moreover, mutual trade activities between the two countries are very vigorous. The significance of the trade between the two countries lies is the fact that the Soviet Union has been one of the DPRK's major trade partners.

The ties between the two countries in the field of science and technology have played an important role in the economic ties of the two countries. USSR-DPRK ties in the field of science and technology have enabled the DPRK to develop the production of minerals in a short period of time with fewer funds, to introduce advanced technology and production processes in its agriculture and industry, to more reasonably utilize material and human resources, and to accelerate and improve the training of its national technological cadres. Ties in the cultural field have also been vigorous.

The significance of the 37th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea is also linked with other significant events between the two countries. The 20th meeting of the USSR-DPRK Intergovernmental Economic and Scientific and Technological Consultation Committee is being held in Pyongyang. This meeting is now being held with the aim of [passage indistinct].

(?Present) Soviet-Korean cooperation is being realized under a very favorable situation in which the traditional friendly relations between the two neighboring peoples have entered an era of an overall new upsurge.

What played a leading role for the parties and peoples of our two countries under such a favorable situation was the agreement reached between Soviet and Korean leaders when the DPRK party and state delegation headed by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the DPRK, visited the Soviet Union. In accordance with this agreement, mutual cooperation in the field of socialist construction and in the international arena has been deepened and improved.

Regular contacts between the leaders of the two countries has served to enhance the effectiveness of this agreement. This year alone, Soviet Foreign Minister Comrade Shevardnadze visited the DPRK, and Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, who led a WPK delegation to attend the 27th CPSU Congress, held talks with Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

All these contacts and talks between Soviet and Korean leaders are characterized by the fact that the views of our two parties and governments on the basic and key problems that concern all mankind today have been invariably confirmed. The DPRK has supported Comrade Gorbachev's 15 January statement and the Soviet initiatives for peace elucidated in the CPSU Central Committee's Political Report delivered at the 27th CPSU Congress.

The Soviet people have expressed firm solidarity with the Korean people's struggle to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula and to achieve the peaceful and democratic reunification of the country.

The peoples of our two countries express their firm determination to strengthen cooperation in the future under the socialist and internationalist principles in accordance with the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance.

## USSR-DPRK ECONOMIC COOPERATION HAILED

### Mutual Benefits Discussed

PM171452 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 Mar 86 p 3

[Article written for SELSKAYA ZHIZN by APN own corespondent V. Moiseyev as part of feature entitled "USSR-DPRK: Friendship, Brotherhood, Cooperation": "Mutual Benefit" -- first three paragraphs are an editorial introduction to the feature]

[Text] The friendship between the Soviet Union and the DPRK has long-standing strong traditions. The USSR was the first to help the Korean people in building a new life. Broad horizons for labor accomplishments and victories opened up for working people in the Land of the Morning Freshness, as the Koreans call their motherland.

The national economic sectors of the DPRK's industry are developing successfully. A solid material and technical base fully in line with the requirements of the present is being created. In just one day the country produces industrial output equal to that produced by North Korea in the whole of 1946. Cooperation between our countries is strengthening and developing. Our all-around relations have risen to a qualitatively new level following the 1984 visit to the USSR by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and DPRK president.

Pyongyang -- No matter which corner of people's Korea I have had an opportunity to visit, the tangible fruits of Soviet-Korean economic cooperation are visible everywhere. Soviet technologies are used in many sectors of the republic's industry -- primarily, of course, in the 69 enterprises built or reconstructed here with the USSR's assistance.

The Soviet Union supplies people's Korea with the machines and equipment, petroleum and petroleum products, coke and coking coal, cotton, and consumer goods it needs. In return the USSR receives magnesite powder for the metallurgical industry, motor car batteries, nonferrous and ferrous metals, light industry products, and agricultural produce.

Cooperation is developing successfully in timber and industrial chippings procurement in East Siberia. Several Korean timber procurement organizations are operating on the territory of Khabarovsk Kray and Amur Oblast. The mutual advantage of such production sharing is obvious: While possessing rich natural resources and the necessary equipment, the Soviet Union is at the same time experiencing a manpower shortage. In contrast, the DPRK needs timber materials and has the opportunity to recruit thousands of workers for timber procurement but has relatively small timber reserves.

The significance of this cooperation for the DPRK is not restricted to the opportunity to obtain timber in volumes sufficiently to satisfy more than half of the country's requirements. During their time in the USSR tens of thousands of Korean citizens have acquired the skills of tractor and motor vehicle drivers, machine operators, and so on.

Our ties in the fishing sphere have reached a high level. In accordance with existing agreements, Soviet and Korean fishing vessels carry out their operations in each other's economic zones and also enjoy the facility of obtaining fuel in USSR or DPRK ports and of carrying out repair work if necessary. There are reciprocal exchanges of fishing industry specialists and of information on questions concerning the industry's equipment, fish processing technologies, shellfish and seaweed farming, and the development of pond fishing.

The tasks facing our countries demand incessant deepening of cooperation and coordination of national economic plans. Plans for the next 5-year plan period envisage the concentration of efforts on expanding ties in the sphere of the development of power engineering, the mining and metallurgical industry, machine building, light industry, and agriculture.

There are good prospects for cooperation in shipbuilding. On the basis of Soviet technical documentation Korean shipyards will build for the USSR seiners and trawlers, "river-sea" dry cargo ships, barges, and timber carriers.

It is planned to place in the DPRK an order for the manufacture for the Soviet Union of railroad gondola cars designed by us and also to build on a barter basis a number of enterprises whose output will be delivered to the USSR.

Yakovlev Comments

SK141100 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Yakovlev commentary]

[Text] Meetings have been held in Moscow between the government trade delegations of the Soviet Union and Korea. The meetings discussed issues in various fields related to the development of economic cooperation between the two countries in a businesslike [silmujogin] atmosphere. In this connection, station commentator Yakovlev writes as follows:

The Soviet-Korea trade talks ended under special circumstances, and a long-term trade agreement for the period of 1986 through 1990 has been signed between the two countries. This coincided with the 27th CPSU Congress, a significant event in the lives of the Soviet people.

In the Political Report delivered by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the congress, a task was put forth to comprehensively develop Soviet relations with the socialist countries, including the DPRK. Therefore, it is natural that the new trade agreement envisages the further development of Soviet-Korean trade and a deepening of reciprocal cooperation.

During the period 1981 through 1985, the trade volume between the two countries reached nearly R3.6 billion. This will more than double in accordance with the new trade agreement.

The trade talks noted the need to make continued joint efforts to fulfill the considerably expanded mutual trade pledges during the current 5-year plan, the possibilities for further expanding and deepening trade and economic relations between our countries based on equality and recripocity, and the need for the rational and complete utilization of all hidden potentials.

The trade agreement envisages a considerable increase in the supply of much modern Soviet machinery and facilities, and Soviet fuel and materials needed for the development of the people's economy of the DPRK and for its regular operation.

Meanwhile, the DPRK will increase the traditional export items of the Republic to the Soviet Union -- magnesia clinker, nonferrous and ferrous rolled metal products, cement, people's consumer goods, and the supply of products from enterprises built in people's Korea through Soviet technical support in accordance with the principle of the distribution of goods. Included in the export items are car batteries, small motors, and nonferrous rolled metal products.

The achievements which the peoples of the Soviet Union and Korea have won in the economic development of their countries guarantee the favorable conditions to expand trade based on reciprocity.

The Soviet people are greatly interested in socialist construction in people's Korea and rejoice over the successes of the fraternal Korean people as their own success.

The DPRK is presently fulfilling the long-range goals of economic construction for the eighties put forth at the sixth congress of the Workers Party of Korea. The successes are a fruition of the unyielding struggle of the Korean people and the great political vitality of the WPK. At the same time, they are a result of the equal and reciprocal cooperation between the Soviet people and the peoples of the other socialist countries.

The experiences of the past convincingly prove that friendship and cooperation have enabled the working people of the DPRK to overcome the remnants of the past colonial rule in a short period and the (?ravages) of war, and are contributing to the common interests of socialist and communist construction and to the cause of the consolidation of peace and security in the Far East.

Trade between the two countries in playing an important role in the development and consolidation of Soviet-Korean relations. During the quarter century since 1961, trade has continued between the two countries in accordance with systematic long-term trade agreements. The long-term 1986-1990 Soviet-Korea trade agreement, too, will actively contribute to the further perfection, consolidation, and enrichment of Soviet-Korean trade and economic relations.

Thoroughly implementing all items of the agreement is the priority task of the trade functionaries of the two countries for the period of the new 5-year plan.

DPRK PROPOSES 'IMPORTANT' PEACE INITIATIVES

LD141803 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1145 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Vasiliy Kharkov commentary]

[Text] Moscow, 14 Mar (TASS) -- Ensuring peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region is one of the urgent tasks of the present time. The development of the situation in this vast region of the globe is convincing the states there that the only way to solve this problem is by an integrated approach uniting the efforts of all countries. A whole range of important and constructive initiatives have already been put forward on various aspects of Asian security. The DPRK is making an active contribution to this common cause of the Asian peoples.

The proposals put forward by the DPRK are marked by their specific nature and are imbued with the striving for a radical improvement in the situation on the Korean peninsula and for assisting Asia in becoming a continent of peace, stability,and good-neighborliness. Does it need to be said that if there is no calm on the whole of the Asian Continent? At the same time, south of the 38th parallel, which has artificially divided the Korean nation, the Pentagon has set up a network of military bases on which over 1,000 units of nuclear weapons are deployed. U.S. nuclear mines have been installed in the zone directly adjacent to the demarcation line. Washington makes no secret of its intentions to deploy cruise missiles with nuclear warheads in South Korea. If one adds to this the fact that U.S. vessels with nuclear weapons on board constantly call at the ports of South Korea as well as those of neighboring Japan, then it will become more clear that the nuclear threat is felt particularly acutely here.

In these conditions, the DPRK's proposals on the withdrawal of all types of nuclear weapons and U.S. troops from South Korea and on turning the peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, into a peace zone, are of particularly great importance.

As is known, the United Nations in a special resolution demanded that the United States cease its military presence in South Korea. Seeking the implementation of this decision by the world community, the DPRK introduced a number of proposals creating real prerequisites for a peaceful and independent unification of the country, for the elimination of the confrontation between North and South Korea by means of arranging dialogue and elaboration a declaration of nonaggression.

Recently, the DPRK put forward yet another extremely timely initiative that is important for the cause of peace and Asian security. It decided not to conduct any major military exercises and called on the other side to cease all military exercises during the talks between North and South. By rejecting this initiative and beginning the large-scale "Team Spirit-86" maneuvers, Washington and Seoul have gone in for a further complication of the situation on the Korean peninsula and have thrown down an open challenge to the national hopes of the Korean people and to the peace aspirations of all Asian peoples.

## U.S.-SOUTH KOREAN' TEAM SPIRIT' EXERCISES ASSAILED

PM171114 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 16 Mar 86 p 3

[International observer M. Nepesov article: "The Pentagon's Nuclear Powder Keg"]

[Text] The situation prevailing in Asia and the Pacific was one of the many pressing world problems discussed at the 27th CPSU Congress. This attention is fully legitimate, because our country's territory lies not only in Europe but also in Asia. Indeed, most of it is actually in Asia. It is therefore understanbadle that we are far from indifferenc about the development of the situation in this vast region, where complex knots, contradictions, and political instability [neuregulirovannost] are to be found in considerable quantities.

In particular, there has been an appreciable intensification of imperialist forces' military activeness in the Far East. Major military maneuvers by the United States and South Korea involving at least 200,000 servicemen have been in progress there since 10 February. These provocative exercises, codenamed "Team Spirit 86," will last until the end of April in the southern Korean peninsula, the Sea of Japan, and the Yellow Sea. This means that nuclear strikes will be simulated, live shells and bullets will be used, and combat aircraft and ships equipped with everything necessary to conduct far from game-like military operations will be moved to the immediate vicinity of the state borders of the DPRK, the PRC, and the USSR. According to Japanese press reports, the scenario for these maneuvers envisages the rehearsal of so-called "in-depth" and "preemptive" strikes deep inside enemy defenses.

It has come to light that, in addition to "Team Spirit 86," joint maneuvers by Japanese Army units and U.S. troops stationed in the south of the peninsula will be held this year on South Korean territory. Chon Tu-hwan's mercenqry clique, totally unconcerned that recollections of the atrocities committed by the Japanese military during the last world war are still alive in the people's memory and will never be obliterated, is giving the descendants of the bloody samurai an opportunity to trample on Korean soil again. For what purpose are the militarists in Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul conducting essentially uninterrupted military exercises of an offensive nature in Asia and the Pacific? There is only one answer: to fan anti-Soviet and antisocialist hysteria and to intimidate the forces of peace and progress in Asia.

The region contiguous to southern Korea, as well as the entire Pacific basin, have long been seen by imperialist strategists as one of the areas of military-political confrontation with the USSR, the DPRK, other socialist countries, and the Asian peoples' national liberation movements. This is the reason why the United States maintains in southern Korea a large contingent of its forces, in excess of 40,000 soldiers and officers. The greatest alarm is caused by the fact that more than 1,000 units of different nuclear weapons, including neutron weapons, have been shipped to U.S. military bases there. The transformation of South Korea into the Pentagon's nuclear powder keg is fraught with deadly danger not only for Koreans, and not only for Asia. The time has come to realize fully the grim realities of our time: Nuclear weapons are bearers of a maelstrom capable of wiping humankind off the face of the earth.

While on the subject, it should be recalled that the first explosion of a U.S. atom bomb occurred in the Far East, above the Japanese city of Hiroshima. In the light of this explosion, the simulations of nuclear strikes taking places in the course of the "Team Spirit 86" U.S.-South Korean military exercises appear particularly blasphemous. Bearing in mind the nature of present-day weapons, this is not the type of "exercises" that ought to be engaged in. The ensuring of any state's security is increasingly becoming a political task, and it can be resolved only by political means.

This is why the Soviet Union, the DPRK, and Asia's other socialist states counter the destructive imperialist policy with a sensible alternative. For example, both nuclear powers in Asia -- the USSR and the PRC -- have pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. As for the Korean peninsula, the implementation of the DPRK Government's proposals to transform it into a nuclear-free zone of peace would be a major step along the path of strengthening security in Asia and the Pacific. Moreover, Pyongyang is proposing a broad range of peace-loving initiatives aimed at the country's unification and the expansion of dialogue between the North and South of Korea. Specifically, to restore railroad communications between the two parts of the peninsula, to embark on the joint working of mineral resources, and so on. Of course, these and many other proposals can materialize only after the U.S. military presence in the south of the country is ended.

SOKOLOV GREETS MONGOLIAN COUNTERPART ON ARMY DAY

PM181103 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 86 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Mongolian Defense Minister Colonel General Comrade J. Yondon

Esteemed Comrade Minister! On the 65th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army, on behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I send to you and all Mongolian servicemen fraternal greetings and cordial congratulations.

The Mongolian People's Army, born in the flames of the revolutionary struggle, fulfills with honor its patriotic duty in defense of the Mongolian people's peaceful creative labor and their freedom and independence, and makes a fitting contribution to the cause of strengthening the socialist community's defense might.

On this noteworthy day I wish you, Comrade Minister, and all servicemen of the Mongolian People's Army new successes in strengthening your socialist motherland's defense capability to greet the 19th Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Congress.

With communist greetings,

S. Sokolov, Marshal of the Soviet Union, USSR defnese minister

DEMICHEV CONVEYS GORBACHEV GREETINGS TO GANDHI

LD181336 Moscow International Service in Russian 0945 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Mar (TASS) -- Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today received Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and USSR minister of culture, who is paying an official visit to India at the invitation of its government.

Petr Demichev conveyed to Rajiv Gandhi friendly greetings and best wishes from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other Soviet leaders. In the course of the meeting the sides discussed bilateral relations and ways to further develop multilateral Soviet-Indian cooperation.

Also touched upon were matters of Soviet-Indian cultural ties, and the forthcoming large-scale and comprehensive USSR festivals to be held in 1987-1988 in India, devoted to the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and India festivals in the Soviet Union dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the republic's independence. The conversation was conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Petr Demichev was received by Ramaswami Venkataraman, vice-president of India. Meetings also took place with Bali Ram Bhagat, Indian minister of external affairs; and G. Parthasarathy, chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

Petr Demichev today visited the memorials erected at the cremation sites of the outstanding Indian leaders Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, and laid wreaths.

Gorbachev To Visit in 1986

HK190625 Hong Kong AFP in English 0525 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] New Delhi, March 19 (AFP) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is to visit India this year, Soviet Culture Minister P.N. Demichev has said, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported Wednesday. It quoted Mr. Demichev as saying Tuesday that Mr. Gorbachev had accepted an invitation to make a visit this year.

Mr. Demichev, who led a Soviet delegation to the 13th congress of the pro-Moscow Communist Party India (CPI) here, called on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi Tuesday. PTI said that he informed Mr. Gandhi of the planned trip, bit added that no dates had yet been finalised. Official comment on Mr. Demichev's reported statement was not immediately available.

DRA STATEMENT REJECTS UN HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION

LD141516 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 14 Mar 86

[text] Kabul March 14 TASS -- U.S.-led international imperialism, in a bid to divert the attention of the world public from facts of violation of human rights in the Republic of South Africa or on the Israeli-occupied Arab lands, has forced into the agenda of the 42nd session of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, which is under way in Geneva, the notorious question of the alleged flouting of human rights in Afghanistan, says a statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which has been issued here. Using its usual power pressure tactics, the United States goaded the session into adopting an absolutely unfounded resolution on that issue, the statement says.

Both at previous and at the latest session the commission adopted a number of resolutions, which fully meet the interests of protection of human rights in different parts of the world. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has invariably come out in support of these documents, the statement stresses. Unfortunately, the resolution, adopted by this session, "On the Situation in Afghanistan," is obviously detrimental to the prestige of that competent international organization.

The unprejudiced person cannot but see the considerable successes which have been attained by democratic Afghanistan in the observance and protection of human rights over the years that passed after the April Revolution victory. Respect for man, equality of all peoples of the country, social progress -- all that has become a reality of Revolutionary Afghanistan, and has been recorded in the basic documents of the People's Democretic Party of Afghanistan and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The letter and the spirit of all basic international documents, pertaining to protection of human rights, are being observed in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Distorting in the eyes of the world public the real state of affairs in the sphere of protection of human rights in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the forces of international imperialism and reaction are meanwhile carrying out ever growing interference into Afghanistan's internal affairs. The fact of counterrevolutionary gangs being trained and sent to the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is a very gross violation of all norms and principles of international law the violation of the basic human right -- the right to live.

The following could be said about the very "Report on the Situation in Afghanistan." The report does not contain a single favorable appraisal of broad-scale transformations aimed at improving the living conditions of the working people of the country, the measures aimed at democratisation of society. Instead, the report contains a heap of slander based exclusively on malicious fabrications of mercenary assassins and terrorists being sent to Afghanistan from abroad. For instance, the report's section on the status of women and children, the system of public education in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan can be qualified only as a manifestation of political narrowness and tendentiousness. The report as a whole, the statement points out, is an expression of hostility for the people which cast off the yoke of colonialism and neo-colonialism.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan believes that the adoption of the resolution by the session of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights is a gross violation of the principles and norms of international law, the relevant provisions of the U.N. Charter, and firmly turns down the assertions made in the report which is a malicious anti-Afghan fraud.

## NEWS CONFERENCE CONDEMNS WEST ON RIGHTS ISSUE

LD132135 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Correspondent M. Leshchinskiy video report from a 13 March news conference held in Kabul devoted to human rights in Afghanistan; from the "Vremya" newscast -- recorded]

[Text] Before this news conference began, journalists were shown new specimens of weapons for the inhuman annihilation of the population in recent battles with the dushmans. You can see here both small arms and mines, grenades. Here, too, there are plastic bombs, specimens of chemical weapons. A little further there is a stand of an unusual photo exhibition where the victims of dushman raids have been recorded.

It needs to be said that we have more than once told you about this in our report from Afghanistan -- in reports from scenes of action -- where for many years now an undelcared war has been waged. However in the West, anti-Afghan campaigns continue to be waged during which it is claimed that allegedly it is precisely Afghanistan's popular authorities who are violating citizens' rights and freedoms. All this was duly rebuffed at today's news conference.

In the official statement which was delivered at the news conference by David Kawian, president of the BAKHTAR news agency, new facts and figures were cited which are evidence of the counterrevolutionaries' inhuman actions. Just recently they have burned over 133 mosques, 2,707 schools and 130 hospitals. Hundreds of priests, teachers, and educational workers have died at the hands of hired murderers. At the same time, it was noted in the statement, the popular revolutionary authorities from their inception have set themselves the task of unswervingly observing human rights in Afghanistan. In revolutionary Afghanistan not only are human rights observed but the rights to education, medical services, and work are being developed in every way.

All the news conference participants unanimously condemned the so-called hearings on human rights in Afghanistan which are being organized in the West.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTANI 'AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS'

LD131745 Moscow TASS in English 1531 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul March 13 TASS -- Pakistan's charge d'affaires ad interim in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has been summoned to the Afghan Foreign Ministry and told there that Pakistani military authorities are continuing to interfere in the internal affairs of this country, engaging in aggression and giving direct support to Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs, BAKHTAR news agency reported.

Between March 3 and 9, for example, the area of the populated locality of Sulaiman in Paktia Province repeatedly came under artillery and rocket shelling which killed 13 people, including women and children, gravely wounded another 52, ruined 20 houses, damaged 40 kilometers of irrigation canals and destroyed 280 tons of food and a large number of fruit trees.

The Afghan Government declared a strong protest over these aggressive actions by the Pakistani Armed Forces and demanded that the Pakistani authorities end them immediately.

It said the responsibility for the aggressive actions is squarely on the Pakistani authorities.

UN'S CORDOVEZ SATISFIED WITH TALKS IN KABUL

LD181221 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul, March 17 (CTK correspondent) -- U.N. Deputy Secretary General Diego Cordovez has voiced satisfaction with the results of his consultations with Afghan officials in Kabul before leaving for his third visit to Islamabad in two weeks today. He will inform the Pakistani side of the Afghan Government's views on the talks on the Afghanistan situation in Geneva. Cordovez announced that the talks in Geneva would continue soon.

## PRAVDA REPORTS PDPA POLITBURO SESSION IN KABUL

PM171607 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Tass report: "A United Front"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Mar -- A session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has taken place here. It was addressed by B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who headed the Afghan party delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress. He noted the principled, firm position which the CPSU and the Soviet Government hold with regard to Afghanistan and the fraternal and internationalist nature of the USSR's assistance to the Afghan people, who are defending their motherland's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. The results of the 27th CPSU Congress' work, the Afghan leader stressed, are evidence of the process of strengthening the world socialist system and the communist and workers movement, which form a united front against the forces of imperialism and for the preservation of life on earth.

## THATCHER'S RECEPTION OF AFGHAN REBEL LEADER CRITICIZED

### Letter From Women's Leader

PM171657 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Tass report: "Afghanistan-Britain; Profound Indignation"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar -- A. Ratebzad, chairman of the Democratic Organization of Women of Afghanistan, has sent an open letter to British Prime Minister M. Thatcher in which, on behalf of all Afghan women, she has expressed profound indignation at London's official reception of one Abdul Haq, ringleader of the Afghan dushmans.

By receiving the murderer on whose conscience are bloody crimes against his own people and by promising him support, the letter says, you are essentially acting in the role of patron of terrorists who resort to any means to return Afghanistan to the Middle Ages. Tens of millions of pounds are being sent by the British Government to the counterrevolution to continue the undeclared war against Afghanistan, whose first victims are women and children. On Afghan soil the dushmans have destroyed 38 hospitals and 111 medical centers, demolished 2,000 schools, and blown up over 250 mosques. In the brief period since the victory of the April national democratic revolution in Afghanistan, the letter notes, more has been done for the people than in the country's entire preceding history. Women enjoy equal rights in all spheres of state and public life. Free democratic elections are taking place for the first time in the country's life.

### Mikheyev Comments

PM181529 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Mikheyev "International Commentary": "London Protects Dushmans"]

[Text] The Afghan terrorist leader Abdul Haq's high-level "consultations" in London have shown that the Conservative government is intent on playing a more appreciable part in the undeclared war against the DRA.

The Tory party's political sympathies have never been a secret, particularly since Prime Minister M. Thatcher used a telescopic sight to survey DRA territory a few years back from the heights of the Khyber Pass. Last year the prime minister acknowledged during a television interview that she had granted 4 million pounds to the Afghan rebels. According to local press reports, there was discussion about further appropriations for the war against the Afghan people during the audience given by M. Thatcher to Abdul Haq. However, the details of the bilateral accord remain a secret.

The secret deal with the Afghan dushman chief was no surprise. What is new in British diplomacy in the Middle East [as published] is direct contact between the prime minister and the person who uses his 5,000 cutthroats to organize sabotage and acts of terrorism. Previously, REUTER stresses, M. Thatcher "Has invariably refused to meet rebel leaders on the grounds that they supported violence."

Fairness requires one to observe that this has not prevented and does not prevent London officialdom from acting as the protector of extremist groupings. It is no accident that the headquarters of the separatist movement to create the Sikh "state of Khalistan" has been established on the banks of the Thames. The movement's leader, the not-unknown Jo Chohan, "predicted" Indira Gandhi's assassination with striking accuracy. He has also already made threats against Rajiv Gandhi, which were broadcast on BBC radio services. Other Sikh separatists have made a niche for themselves in Birmingham, where they collect funds to destabilize the situation in India through terrorist acts. Hijackings of Indian aircraft form part of the arsenal of methods used in their "struggle."

It is not just connivance with foreign terrorist organizations. International Law, the norms of interstate relations adopted in civilized society, and the UN Charter are also being flouted.

If Sikh extremists feel themselves at ease under the protection of London officialdom, the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, too, who are using methods of terror in their fight against the people's power, have no reason to stand aside. Nor are their calculations unfounded. During Abdul Haq's talks with G. Howe, foreign secretary, and Baroness Young, minister of state at the Foreign Office, the British side morally committed itself to giving "full support" to the dushmans. Official contacts with leaders of the Afghan counterrevolution were also blessed. London thus issued an official challenge to the DRA, with which it maintains diplomatic relations. Kabul has sent an official protest to Britain regarding Abdul Haq's invitation to London.

The prospect of a political settlement is clearly so unacceptable to London that it is ready to be unstinting in its provision of generous infusions of money, which enable the mercenary dushman formations to exist. Thus London is matching Washington in becoming yet another "godfather" of the policy of state terrorism.

## GORBACHEV, LE DUAN SHARE 'IDENTICAL VIEWS' ON ISSUES

OW151131 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] An exchange of views was conducted on 14 March between Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee.

On behalf of the leadership of the CPV Central Committee and all Vietnamese Communists, Comrade Le Duan warmly congratulated Comrade Gorbachev on his re-election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and wished him many achievements in his lofty position.

Highly valuing the work of the 27th CPSU Congress, Comrade Le Duan stressed that the documents approved at the congress are of great significance and are highly encouraging, not only for the Soviet Union, but also for all the world's revolutionary and progressive forces. Comrade Le Duan wished Soviet Communists and the entire Soviet working people splendid fulfillment of the tasks set out at the congress.

The SRV fully supports the Soviet Union's program of struggle to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons, to establish a comprehensive international security system, and to counter the schemes of aggression of imperialism and reactionaries.

Comrade Le Duan kept Comrade Gorbachev informed of the preparations for the Sixth CPV Congress. The congress will determine new objectives for Vietnam's economic and social development.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev expressed his gratitude to Comrade Le Duan for highly valuing the resolutions passed at the 27th CPSU Congress. He stressed the unswerving solidarity of the CPSU and the Soviet people with Vietnamese Communists and the Vietnamese people, who are closing their ranks in the struggle to defend their revolutionary gains and consolidate the position of socialism in Vietnam. The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee conveyed to Vietnamese Communists and the entire Vietnamese working people his fraternal greetings, and wished them new achievements in honor of the Sixth CPV Congress.

During the exchange of views, both sides dealt with key issues in Soviet-Vietnamese relations, which have been developing on the basis of the principles of Leninism and socialist internationalism, and on the points mentioned in the USSR-Vietnam Treaty of Cooperation and Friendship. Both sides also resolutely condemned the actions of the imperialist circles and reactionaries in Southeast Asia, and affirmed their readiness to contribute to accelerating the quest for ways to resolve the lingering disputes in the region.

The Soviet Union actively supports the constructive steps of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, designed to make Southeast Asia a zone of peace and stability, and to ensure security in the entire Asia-Pacific region.

The exchange of views proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerity, in which identical views were shared on all issues discussed.

## AUSTRALIA OPPOSES U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

LD190949 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Canberra March 19 TASS -- The Australian Government has repeatedly informed Washington of its firm opposition to any plans to provide military aid to the "contras" in Nicaragua, the Prime Minister of Australia Robert Hawke said at a session of the parliamentary faction of the ruling Labour Party.

Speaking in the House of Representatives of the Australian Parliament, Foreign Minister William Hayden stressed that the first and foremost principle by which Australia abides with regard to Central America is that all states in the region should have the opportunity to solve their problems individually without outside interference and that it is essential that the territorial borders of all Central American countries be respected. He said that the best way to achieve settlement of the Central American problems is support for the Contadora process.

INVESTIGATION INTO MARCOS FINANCES VIEWED

LD151746 Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Manila March 15 TASS -- Philippine President Corazon Aquino has had a meeting here with a delegation of the International Monetary Fund.

Representatives of the fund, controlled by U.S. capital, have come to discuss with the new leadership of the country the terms of economic aid to the Philippines. The agenda of the talks includes the repayment of foreign debts, totalling almost 30 billion dollars, to Western creditors. The Aquino administration intends to ask for rescheduling debt repayment. Local observers note that the extremely grim economic situation in the Philippines is explained by the country's strong dependence on the Western financial institutions and also by the predatory policies of U.S. monopolies.

The Philippine Government continues to investigate the siphoning off of large funds from the state treasury under the previous administration. The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER writes that Marcos made large donations to the election campaign of U.S. President Reagan. Since the 1980 presidential election, about 70 million dollars were transferred from the Philippine treasury to the other side of the ocean. Trying to secure Washington's support, the newspaper says, the former Philippine president generously supplied with money the White House chief and his closest entourage, including Defense Secretary Weinberger and CIA Director Casey.

The investigation of these machinations and of the bank assets of the Marcos family abroad is the responsibility of a presidential commission set up to oversee the activities of the government under Jovito Salonga. However, as President Aquino's executive secretary said at a press conference here, the Philippine Government has reason to believe that the USA has no serious intention of facilitating the return of the property belonging to the Republic.

New York March 15 TASS -- The ABC T.V. Company reports that the U.S. Federal Court blocked the access of members of the commission led by Salonga, who arrived in Washington, to documents taken by Marcos along as he had fled from the Philippines to Hawaii. The more than 1,500 various documents taken away by the former president, it is believed, could shed light on the character and size of the operations of the Marcos family.

FILIPINO WORKERS AT U.S. BASES GO ON STRIKE

LD180812 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Manila March 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Alexander Kisilyov reports: The leadership of the trade union of Filipino civilian workers at U.S. military bases in this country today announced a massive protest campaign against the discriminatory practices of the U.S. military authorities there.

Responding to its call, more than 30,000 Filipino workers from seven U.S. military facilities in the Philippines, including the Pentagon's largest overseas bases at Subic Bay and Clark Field, mounted protest demonstrations, pickets and strikes.

The broadest-ever labor action was launched following the U.S. military command's refusal to accept the terms of a collective bargaining agreement suggested by the Philippine trade union. It provided for better working conditions and amenities, higher pay and bigger social welfare allowances for Filipino workers. The union also demanded that the 66 fired Filipino workers, including union activists, be reinstated in their former jobs at the Subic Bay base.

The union's Chairman Roberto Flores said its leadership was determined to go on with the campaign until the U.S. military command met all those demands.

The massive union protest, the press agreed, underlines a growing class awareness of the Filipino workers unwilling to put up with their "second-rate people" status formalized in the inequitable agreement on labor relations at the bases, which was foisted on the Philippines by the United States in 1968.

## IZVESTIYA PROFILES PHILIPPINES' CORAZON AQUINO

PM171435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed article under the rubric "Who's Who": "President of the Philippines Corazon Aquino"]

[Text] Born in 1933 in Tarlac Province, not far from Manila. She received higher philological and legal education in New York and Manila. She married Benigno Aquino, an eminent politician who was the most consistent opponent of President F. Marcos among the bourgeois opposition. B. Aquino advocated the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and the USSR. In 1969 he visited the USSR.

In 1972-1980, B. Aquino was imprisoned in connection with accusations by the authorities of antigovernment activity. In 1980, B. Aquino received permission to travel to the United States for medical treatment. He flew home from the United States in August 1983. On arriving in Manila he was killed at the airport as he left the aircraft. The circumstances of the crime have still not been definitively cleared up.

The death of her husband and Corazon Aquino's subsequent criticism of the ruling regime won her the sympathy of the middle and petite bourgeoisie and representatives of the country's poorest strata. C. Aquino was also supported by a section of the opposition-minded big bourgeoisie.

In her election statements, C. Aquino promised to take decisive steps to eradicate corruption and abuses and to improve the population's living standards. She stated that she would support relations with all countries irrespective of their social systems. Here emphasis was placed on the consolidation of relations with the United States and the ASEAN States.

Refusing to recognize the results of the 7 February election announced by F. Marcos and stating they had been rigged, C. Aquino and her supporters launched a campaign of civil disobedience. When C. Aquino was supported by the leadership of the Armed Forces, F. Marcos resigned as president and left the Philippines. On the same day, 25 February, C. Aquino was proclaimed the country's new president. C. Aquino has five children.

FURTHER ON SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO POLAND

Jaruzelski Meeting Elaborated

LD181448 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw March 18 TASS -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PUWP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of Poland, today received Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, paying an official visit of friendship to Poland at the invitation of the Polish Government.

In the course of the conversation, which passed in a warm and comradely atmosphere and in the spirit of complete mutual understanding, the sides expressed satisfaction with the fruitful development of relations between the USSR and Poland, firmly based on the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. The fraternal alliance between the CPSU and the PUWP that is constantly growing stronger and their comprehensive development and further improvement of Soviet-Polish cooperation in every field.

Exchanging opinions on international affairs, the sides noted that, given continued world tension, special importance attached to the cohesion of the fraternal countries and to further improvement of the efficient coordination of their actions on the international scene. In this context they noted the growing role of the Warsaw Treaty Organization as an instrument of achieving concerted foreign policy strategies and actions of the countries of the socialist community for peace, international security and disarmament.

Orzechowski Talks 'Total Success'

LD190251 Moscow International Service in Polish 1500 GMT 18 Mar 86

["Facts and Comment Magazine" commentary]

[Text] A commendable tradition of verifying our fraternal countries' progress in solving the most important issues of our time has existed for many years. It takes place at various levels: from heads of states, parties and governments to ministers. Now another exchange of views on a number of most important matters forming the basis of close cooperation between the Soviet Union and People's Poland has taken place. Talks between Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, USSR foreign affairs minister, and Comrade Marian Orzechowski, PZPR Central Committee Politburo candidate member, Poland's foreign affairs minister, have taken place in Warsaw.

Primarily it should be emphasized that the present talks, like those before, took place in an atmosphere of complete mutual understanding and again confirmed the unanimity of views between the Soviet Union and Poland on all current international matters, and their steadfast will to actively struggle for a radical positive change on the European Continent and throughout the world. The results of this meeting will undoubtedly be analyzed both in Moscow and in Warsaw, as well as in the capitals of other countries. But already today there are grounds for speaking of a total success and productive nature of the talks. Comrade Shevardnadze stressed that it could not have been otherwise, since they had been preceded by an important meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary, chairman of Poland's Council of State. That meeting, it was stressed during the talks in Warsaw, laid out clear signposts and directions for developing cooperation in the future interests of peace and socialism.

In Warsaw it was said openly that Poland has lived through a difficult time. It has gone through ordeals sorely felt by every Soviet [as heard] citizen. But today, when the perfidious plans of the antisocialist forces and their imperialist patrons have been thwarted, it is possible to look to the future with optimism and to seriously address matters of long-term cooperation. This is shown by the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic and Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and Poland Through the Year 2000. The document, of great political significance, has made a weighty contribution to the collective efforts of the countries of the socialist community striving for a reliable defense against the subversive financial-economic machinations of the imperialist forces.

The present talks in Warsaw were influenced by the fact that they took place soon after the completion of the proceedings of the 27th CPSU Congress and on the eve of another forum of the Polish Communists. The agendas of these congresses contain different tasks and different methods of resolving them. But there is only one objective -- to strengthen the might of our indissoluble alliance and to raise the living standard of the working people of our countries. Faithful to its internationalist duty, the Soviet Union and its party have always been and will continue to be on the side of fraternal Poland and will always readily share with it -- as with other fraternal countries -- their rich experience of building a new society.

In the Soviet Union, Comrade Jaruzelski's words that everything done now in the Land of the Soviets is of great significance for the fraternal parties of the socialist community, for the international communist and workers movement, and for the destiny of all mankind, were received with gratitude. The Soviet-Polish alliance constitutes an important factor of security in Europe. It is of fundamental significance in the international situation that has arisen, namely when in some Western capitals, above all Washington, attempts are made to act from positions of strength and diktat, and an unprecedented arms race is being fanned. Considering all these factors, the participants in the talks in Warsaw declared their resolute will to oppose with every means the policy of confrontation conducted by the United States, as well as all attempts, made first and foremost in the FRG, to question the territorial-political postwar realities. This is a most timely warning.

And so, the visit to Poland by Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Union's foreign affairs minister, can be completely and justifiably described as political. The talks in the Polish capital will undoubtedly contribute to a further tightening of our countries' fraternal cooperation.

## PRAVDA Publishes Communique

PM181700 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

["Soviet-Polish Joint Communique" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, was on an official friendly visit to Poland 17-18 March 1986 at the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of Poland.

E.A. Shevardnadze was received by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZRP Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council. In the course of the conversation satisfaction was expressed at the dynamic development of Soviet-Polish relations and the close cooperation between the USSR and Poland in the international arena.

An exchange of views took place between E.A. Shevardnadze and M. Orzechowski, candidate member of the PZRP Central Committee Politburo and Polish foreign minister, on the state and prospects of relations between the two countries in the spirit of the accords reached in the course of meetings between M.S. Gorbachev and W. Jaruzelski.

E.A. Shevardnadze familiarized M. Orzechowski with the results of the 27th CPSU Congress' work, devoting particular attention to the foreign policy program approved by the congress. He stressed that Soviet people have embarked on the active implementation of the plans outlined by the congress.

On behalf of the Polish leadership, M. Orzechowski stated that the 27th CPSU Congress decisions have received widespread support in Poland. In turn he described the progress of preparations for the 10th PZPR Congress and the discussion of the draft program and other documents submitted for examination by the party forum.

The ministers again confirmed the abiding significance of the Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Aid Treaty between Poland and the USSR for the development and consolidation of the allied relations of friendship and all-around cooperation between the two countries. These relations, which are based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and on the unity of the objectives of the CPSU and the PZPR and of the vital interests of the USSR and Poland and the two countries' peoples, are developing successfully in all fields.

The ministers expressed the conviction that the consistent implementation of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between Poland and the USSR for the Period Through the Year 2000, of all other agreements and bilateral accords, and also of mutual commitments within the CEMA framework must serve the further deepening of cooperation and integration and the resolute acceleration of the two countries' socioeconomic development.

The sides recorded the fact that the implementation of the agreements concluded and understandings reached is proceeding successfully. At the present time all efforts must be aimed at more effective utilization of manpower and resources toward the joint resolution of paramount problems in the socioeconomic development of the USSR and the Polish People's Republic on the basis of scientific-technical progress.

The talks reaffirmed a complete unity of views in appraising the present international situation and of conclusions flowing from that appraisal in terms of the foreign policy of the two states. The ministers noted that the international situation remains extremely tense. The danger of nuclear catastrophe has not diminished. The United States and its NATO allies have not renounced the intention to secure military superiority. The siting of American first-strike missiles in certain West European countries continues. Intensifying the arms race in all spheres, the United States is striving to also extend it to outer space.

The sides again drew attention to the fact that the "star wars" program in which the United States is embroiling a number of allies, intensifies the arms race and threatens to make it irreversible in character, tends to upset strategic stability, and creates a serious threat to international security. Imperialism's militarist policy and its pretensions to world domination are the main obstacle in the way of lasting peace, security, and cooperation.

The complete elimination of nuclear weapons before the end of this century, with a simultaneous ban on space strike weapons, is the only solution acceptable to all countries and peoples. The Polish People's Republic again expresses full support for the comprehensive program for disarmament and for a peaceful future for the world advanced in the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and in the 27th CPSU Congress documents.

It was stressed that under present conditions the halting of all nulear tests could and should be an important step on the way to freeing mankind from nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union's decision, made in response to an appeal from the leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden, and Greece, not to carry out nuclear explosions even after 31 March -- until the first U.S. nuclear explosion -- enables the resolution of this urgent problem to be shifted onto practical lines.

The sides expressed the unanimous opinion that the total liquidation of medium-range U.S. and Soviet missiles in the European zone on a reciprocal basis must become one of the first steps on the road toward the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. The reaching of an agreement on this issue would facilitate the liquidation of nuclear weapons on a global scale. Poland fully supports the USSR's constructive stance at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on nuclear and space weapons.

The ministers expressed themselves in favor of activating the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe and they stressed in this regard the importance of the transition without delay to drafting the text of an agreement on initial reductions of troops and armaments of the USSR and United States. The socialist countries' 20 February 1986 proposals could serve as the basis for the start of this work.

Poland and the Soviet Union have made and will continue to make every effort necessary to avert a dangerous development of events, to eliminate the threat of nuclear war, and to return to detente [razryadka] in international relations.

The ministers declared once again that respect for the territorial and political realities which have taken shape as a result of World War II and postwar development is an essential condition of peace and security in Europe. The aspiration of revanchist forces, above all in the FRG, to alter the established territorial-political setup threatens the foundations of peace in Europe.

Expressing disquiet at the growing exacerbation of the situation in many regions of the world, the ministers stressed the urgent necessity to eliminate hotbeds of tension and conflict through negotiation, taking into consideration the vital interests of the peoples of the states concerned.

The ministers confirmed that the USSR and the Polish People's Republic will continue to promote the consolidation of the unity and cohesion of the socialist community states. The improvement of the all-around, allied cooperation of the Warsaw Pact member-states is an essential condition of their security and successful development, and at the same time is an important factor for the preservation and consolidation of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The talks passed in an atmosphere of allied friendship, full mutual understanding, and unity of views on all questions discussed.

E.A. Shevardnadze conveyed to M. Orzechowski an invitation to make a friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was received with gratitude.

ARISTOV WELCOMES HONECKER AT LEIPZIG FAIR

LD161800 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Leipzig, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, chairman of the GDR State Council, and other party and state figures of the republic visited the Soviet pavilion at the International Leipzig Fair, which opened here today. They were greeted by Boris Aristov, the head of the Soviet Government delegation and USSR minister of foreign trade, and Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR.

Speaking at the USSR pavilion, Erich Honecker stressed that this exhibition embodies the outstanding achievements of Soviet science and technology. All that is presented here, he said, confirms the profound impressions of the SED delegation about the 27th CPSU Congress.

Erich Honecker further noted that in the Political Report delivered by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and also in the other congress documents, tasks directed far into the future are set out.

The GDR leader expressed the assurance that the USSR will successfully fulfill the mighty plans, which will have decisive significance for the strengthening of socialism and peace.

Erich Honecker stated the the GDR wholly and entirely supports the all-embracing program to free the world of nuclear weapons before the year 2000, put forward by the USSR. This program is the only historical chance of its kind to save mankind from nuclear disaster, and to replace confrontation with cooperation. Peaceful coexistence must become the universal norm for relations between states. The GDR vigorously favors this, together with the USSR and other fraternal countries.

The speaker pointed to the enormous significance of the comprehensive program for scientific and technical progress up to the year 2000, adopted by the CEMA countries for the further deepening of socialist economic integration.

HONECKER EXPRESSES DESIRE TO VISIT FRG IN 1986

LD161528 Hamburg DPA in German 1154 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Bonn, 16 Mar (DPA) -- GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker wants to visit the Federal Republic this year. This impression has increased among observers of the talks between Chancelor Helmut Kohl and Honecker occasioned by the funeral of murdered Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme in Stockholm. Government Spokesman Friedhelm Ost, who accompanied the chancellor to the Swedish capital, however, declined to answer questions on the visit when he spoke to DPA today.

Ost also said he did not want to fuel speculation regarding a visit to Bonn by Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. Nothing is known about any such plans. However, the Kremlin leader, like Honecker, has been invited to visit the Federal Republic.

Ost said Kohl spoke twice with Honecker on the sidelines of the ceremony in the Stockholm city hall and at the reception which followed at the Swedish Foreign Ministry. The time taken up by the talks between the two men, who also sat next to one another at the ceremony, was put at around 30 minutes. The chancellor once again stressed his concern for an improvement in relations between FRG and GDR citizens. More favorable opportunities for travel can contribute to this.

HONECKER MEETS VOLGOGRAD DELEGATION IN MOSCOW

DW042034 East Berlin Television Service in German 1830 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] In the Kremlin today in Moscow a friendly meeting took place between the SED delegation led by Erich Honecker and the Volgograd region delegates to the party congress. Memories of many years of friendship were exchanged. They talked about numerous meetings between workers, peasants, scientists, and in particular young people of the GDR and inhabitants of the city of heroes on the Volga. Vladimir Kalashnikov, first secretary of the CPSU regional committee, informed Erich Honecker about the productive effects of the Volgograd-Karl-Marx-Stadt partnership on their all-round relations. He said that on a recent visit to the Fritz Heckert combine with a delegation he had an opportunity to see the acceleration of scientific-technological progress, particularly in robot technology. That had impressed them very much, he said, because such tasks were being discussed here at the party congress and had also to be resolved in the Volgograd region.

Erich Honecker agreed that such partnership relations were very helpful for both cities in learning from each other and enhancing cooperation. In the course of the vivid conversation during one of the breaks in the Kremlin, the visit by Erich Honecker and a party-state delegation to Volgograd in 1975 was also broached. The people of Volgograd remember very well how the GDR representatives honored the heroes killed in the battle of Stalingrad. Honecker said that the youths of both countries had established close ties of friendship, and the FDJ-Komsomol festival in Volgograd had contributed to that. Erich Honecker and the members of his delegation wished the delegates from the city of heroes best successes for their work following the party congress. Erich Honecker asked them to convey to all Volgorad people fraternal greetings of friendship.

GDR STATEMENT HAILS USSR MORATORIUM EXTENSION

LD141730 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Berlin March 14 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic today issued a joint statement hailing the Soviet Union's decision not to conduct nuclear explosions also after March 31 -- until the first nuclear explosion in the United States.

This position taken by the USSR, the statement said, demonstrates its unwavering determination to put an end to the arms race and secure effective steps to disarmament.

It also facilitates the fulfilment of the unique program for the stage-by-stage deliverance of mankind from nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, the statement added.

It said further that the joint message of the leaders of Argentina, India, Mexico, Tanzania, Sweden and Greece and the reply to that message by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, reflects a desire to halt the further upgrading of nuclear weapons by stopping nuclear explosions and create favorable conditions for measures to terminate the arms race on earth and prevent it from spilling over into outer space. This stand, the statement said, is fully supported by the GDR. The state statement noted the Soviet leader's reply makes clear-cut proposals on verification. After the latest constructive step by the USSR it is now the U.S. turn to contribute to an end to nuclear blasts by stopping its nuclear testing.

## GDR'S AXEN AWARDED ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP

PM061133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 86 Second Edition p 3

[USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decreee: "On Awarding Comrade Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the SED Central Committee, the Order of Friendship of the Peoples"]

[Text] Moscow, the Kremlin, 5 Mar -- In recognition of his great services in strengthening fraternal friendship and cooperation between the GDR and the Soviet Union and in connection with his 70th birthday, Comrade Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, is awarded the Order of Friendship of the Peoples.

A. Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

## ZHIVKOV VISITS MOSCOW INSTITUTE DURING CONGRESS

LD030041 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The BCP delegation to the 27th CPSU Congress, headed by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the Bulgarian People's Republic has visited the Moscow M.M. Shemyakin Bio-Organic Chemistry Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, where scientists told the guests about the latest achievements in genetic engineering.

## ACTIVITIES OF BCP DELEGATION AT 27TH CONGRESS NOTED

### Stanishev Speaks at Press Center

AU012112 Sofia BTA in English 2025 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, March 1 (BTA correspondent Nencho Khranov) -- A meeting with members of the Bulgarian Communist Party delegation attending the 27th Congress of the CPSU was held today in the congress's international press center. The members of the Bulgarian delegation were Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP, and Mr Ivan Panev, member of the CC of the BCP and first secretary of the County Committee of the BCP in Plovdiv.

"We have every reason to state that the 27th Congress of the CPSU is a congress of Communists' historical optimism, and congress aiming at a peaceful future, noted Mr Dimitur Stanishev. "This is being felt with great strength in the extremely important Political Report of the CC of the CPSU read by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. The new edition of the Program of the CPSU and the main trends for the economic and social development of the U.S.S.R. are of new theoretical contribution to the further development and improvement of the socialist society, to the growth of the national wealth, to man's comprehensive advancement, to the turning of socialism into the most attractive force for millions of people all over the world. The theoretical contribution, the creative and business-like approach to the fulfulment of the tasks standing before the Soviet society, the inspiring Leninist sincerity and critical and self-critical attitude of the 27th Congress of the CPSU are a source of strength and serve as an example for the Bulgarian Communists," stated Mr Stanishev.

"We, Bulgarian Communists, firmly support the CPSU's course of deep changes and brave decisions," continued the secretary of the CC of the BCP. The historical need to adopt this course has been determined by the objective needs stemming from the current stage on the development of the Soviet State, of the states of the socialist community. This course if truly international since it provides the only possible basis for the further dynamic interaction between the fraternal states in the economic, scientific and cultural fields, and for the maintaining of their defense potential at the necessary level."

"Bulgaria," said Mr. Stanishev, "warmly and enthusiastically supports the Soviet program for a peaceful space, for a world free of weapons and wars. This is a program which clearly demonstrates that world peace and socialism are an unbreakable entity. We raise our voice in unison with the appeals and actions of the progressive, democratic and antiwar forces -- supporters of peace, detente, disarmament and social progress."

Dwelling upon the state and future of the Bulgaro-Soviet relations, Mr. Dimitur Stanishev said that the course of cooperation in all fields between the BCP and the CPSU, between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union, is the fruitful and dynamic course of socialist internationalism, which will be pursued unflaggingly in the future. This has been confirmed by Mr. Todor Zhivkov's address to the congress which stated that our whole life -- party, state, public, and even private -- confirms this fact," stated Mr. Stanishev.

The speaker went on to brief the audience with the preparatory work for the 13th Congress of the BCP.

The secretary of the CC of the BCP dwelled upon Bulgaria's active and peaceloving foreign policy, on the country's efforts directed at turning the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons, a zone of good neighbourly relations, understanding and peaceful cooperation. He emphasized upon Bulgaria's desire to maintain cooperation and friendship with the neighbouring countries, based on the principle of noninterference in other countries' internal affairs. Mr. Dimitur Stanishev stated that Bulgaria is ready to talk with Turkey at all levels with the aim of improving the relations and developing the cooperation between the two countries. However, Bulgaria refutes all fabricated problems, which are related to her internal affairs.

## Filipov, Delegation Visit Georgia

AU042109 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The delegation of the BCP which is visiting Georgia and which includes Grisha Filipov, Dimitur Stanishev and Ivan Panev, laid a wreath at the Lenin monument in the center of Tblisi.

Following this, a talk was held at the council of ministers headquarters of the republic. Dmitriy Kartvelishvili, chairman of the government, briefed the Bulgarian guests on economic development, on the development of agriculture, science, and culture in Georgia, as well as on the work of the Georgian working people in implementing the tasks assigned by the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th congress.

Comrade Grisha Filipov discussed preparations for the 13th BCP Congress and dealt in particular with the qualitatively new stage of development in Bulgarian-Soviet relations, namely on the establishment of joint production trusts.

The Bulgarian delegation visited the Elva scientific-production trust for electronic computers and calculating machines. The members of the Bulgarian delegation held a very useful and meaningful talk with the members of the Georgian Academy of Sciences Presidium. In the Komsomol city near Tblisi, the Bulgarian guests visited the Republic Center of Figurative Arts, and Comrade Grisha Filipov planted a tree in the lane of guests of honor.

The BCP delegation visited the Palace of Festive Ceremonies and the national museum of Georgia, as well. The delegation returned to Moscow tonight.

USSR DEPUTY MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN POLICY

AU272208 Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian 25 Feb 86 p 3

[Interview with Leonid Ilichev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, by unnamed NARODNA MLADEZH correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] "I am glad to take advantage of this opportunity which enables me to address the younger generation in fraternal Bulgaria from the pages of your newspaper. You people here manifest a constant interest in the life of people in our country, in its Communist Party, and in the Soviet state. It is with satisfaction that I note the interested approach of Bulgarian youths to international problems and I consider this a confirmation of the active stand of those who are the militant reserves of the fighters of communism, for a world without wars, for clear skies over our earth."

This is the opening statement with which Leonid Fedorovich Ilichev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress, began his interview with our correspondent in the USSR.

[NARODNA MLADEZH]: Can you describe the characteristic features of the new edition of the draft CPSU Program as regards USSR foreign policy at the present stage of development?

[Ilichev]: The CPSU Program which is now still valid was adopted at the 22d CPSU Congress in 1961, as you know. The quarter of a century elapsed since then has confirmed the correctness of this program's fundamental, political postulates, as well as our party's and the Soviet state's general line on the international scene. Naturally the basic postulates laid down in the aforementioned program remain valid and are preserved in the new draft program, which has been submitted to the CPSU congress. This is why the first characteristic feature of this program can be described as a continuation of the existing CPSU Program.

However, time goes on. Within the last 25 years, and I presume that the majority of your readers are of the same age, or approximately 25 years old, the colonial empires collapsed and dozens of new states were established on their ruins. An approximate military-strategic balance was achieved between the USSR and the United States. The world has changed and it is fully understandable that the time has come to analyze the experience accumulated and the new phenomena of international life on a scientific basis, in order to be able to determine the chief trends and goals of our policy under current historical conditions in a more precise and specific manner. The analysis of the new, contemporary world and of its development from a Marxist-Leninist point of view, the critical evaluation of certain former postulates, which are outdated, and the innovative approach to the crucial problems and to the strategy and tactics of our country on the world scene can be defined as the second characteristic trait in the foreign policy of the CPSU and of the Soviet state.

The draft program is characterized by another trait as well. The Central Committee commission that worked on the text of the new draft program based itself on the Leninist instructions stating that the CPSU Program must express our basic views, based on principle, and our long-term political goals, that this program must be an unmistakable and accurate presentation of the goals for which the CPSU is struggling and which it will struggle for within the foreseeable future. This is precisely why the draft CPSU Program is based on a strictly realistic approach that precludes going into unnecessary details, which are likely to tie our hands and to prevent creative, innovative actions.

In other words, the chief emphasis is placed on the determination of the strategic trends in the party's work and on its objective evaluation of its own opportunities and future prospects. It is particularly important to stress that in saying all this, we must add that the foreign policy portion of the draft program (and this is quite understandable) is aimed at a peaceful manner of settling the historical controversy between the two opposed social systems into which the contemporary world is divided. We are convinced that socialism is capable of and obliged to prove its advantages by the strength of the creative example and not by the force of weapons.

[NARODNA MLADEZH]: The new draft CPSU Program stresses the enhanced role of the developing countries in the worldwide political and economic sphere as a characteristic feature of our present-day epoch. Now can you describe the importance of the developing countries in the joint struggle for peace and international security?

[Ilichev]: The forceful mass presence of the young states on the world scene is a qualitative leap in the system of international relations, which made this system a truly worldwide system for the first time in history. The world's political structure changed as a result of this. The participation of all peoples from the East in the settlement of the fate of all mankind, was predicted by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, became true. If we consider the world of the developing countries and the trends that are prevailing in this world, in their entirety, the answer to your question can be quite definite: The newly liberated countries, as some of the most political forces of the world, are indubitably playing a positive role in the joint struggle for peace and for international security. In other words, in the deployment of world forces, these countries belong to the antiwar and anti-imperialist forces.

Out party, the CPSU, has always devoted great attention to the consolidation of the relations between the Soviet Union and the newly liberated countries. The new draft CPSU Program devotes an entire section to this question, in which the basic trends of further development of these relations are mapped out.

The alliance of the forces of social progress and of national liberation guarantees a better future for mankind. It is on this basis that the Soviet Union will further develop its relations with the newly liberated countries.

Going back to the thesis that the solution of numerous international problems also depends upon the newly liberated countries, I would like to say that this is not only due to their number, according to which they represent more than -thirds of the states existing in the world today. It is because in their zone dangerous conflicts are erupting today, conflicts whose influence reaches far beyond their borders, exacerbating the already tense international situation. Without the participation of the newly liberated countries the main problem of our contemporary epoch the problem of war and peace cannot be solved. International security demands today that peace should be ensured not only in Europe, but also in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, as well as on the oceans. To consolidated international security this is the cause of every country and every nation, the cause of broad internationalcoalition of peace-loving forces in our world.

## WEINBERGER, UK'S YOUNGER DISCUSS 'STAR WARS' TIES

LD182235 Moscow TASS in English 2132 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] London March 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov reports: Casper Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defence, who is on a tour of Western Europe on the eve of opening in the FRG of a scheduled meeting of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group, is currently staying in the British capital. Whitehall has made no official statements on the visit, yet the TASS correspondent was told at the British Defence Department that Caspar Weinberger has met with his British counterpart George Younger to discuss a number of military problems, including arms control and Britian's participation in the research programmes within the framework of the U.S. "Strategic Defence Initiative."

In the opinion of local observers, the discussion of the question of "arms control" actually centred on coordinating Washington's and London's efforts to block any progress on this field. The arrival of the American hawk to the banks of the Thames has coincied with the confirmation by the British Government of its refusal to give a positive response to the Soviet peace initiatives directed at curbing the weapons race and eliminating nuclear weapons stage-by-stage.

The Tory Cabinet's servile following of Washington's lead, its obstructionist policy have been strongly criticised by Denis Healey, foreign secretary in the Labour Party "shadow cabinet." Speaking in a BBC television interview, he accused the government of surrender and of invariably yielding to American pressure in its wish to accommodate itself to the Reagan administration's stand.

Meanwhile, Denis Healey stressed, even many American experts, who earlier took part in talks with the Soviet Union, consider this stand to be totally "unrealistic." The Labour figure has strongly condemned the support by the British Government of the refusal of the USA to join in the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions.

As far as the discussion of the "star wars" plans at the meeting of Caspar Weinberger with George Younger is concerned, the talks, in the opinion of observers, centred on a further broadening of cooperation of the USA and Britain in implementing that programme directed at militarizing outer space.

## REPORTAGE ON FRENCH POLITICAL SITUATION

### Chirac Asked To Form Government

LD181959 Moscow TASS in English 1944 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Paris March 18 TASS -- French President Francois Mitterrand today offered the post of prime minister to Jacques Chirac, the leader of the Rally for the Republic Party, and suggested that he should form a new government of the country. Representatives of the right-wing parties that earned the majority of votes at the parliamentary elections held last Sunday, are expected to enter Elysee Palace, Jacques Chirac will shortly give an answer to the president's proposal.

### Parties Support Appointment

LD190555 Moscow TASS in English 0550 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Paris March 19 TASS -- The Rassemblement pour la Republique (RPR) and the Union for French Democracy have accepted the proposal of Francois Mitterrand, president of France, to appoint RPR President Jacques Chirac to the post of prime minister.

This has been stated by Jean Lecanuet, leader of the Union for French Democracy, who took part in a meeting of leaders of right-wing parties in Paris.

The meeting was convened for discussing the decision taken by the president on Tuesday to suggest to Jacques Chirac that he form a government. Today the RPR president will start consultations with French politicians with the aim to form a new Cabinet which will include representatives of right-wing parties.

IZVESTIYA Comments

PM181159 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by unnamed "own correspondent": "France; Results of Elections"]

[Text] Paris -- Elections to the National Assembly have been held in France. According to preliminary figures, the two biggest rignt-wing parties -- the Rally for the Republic [RPR] and the Union for French Democracy [UDF] -- have collected about 42 percent of the votes and, together with the other right-wing groups, will have 291 seats, while an absolute majority is 289 seats. In the previous National Assembly, the RPR and the UDF had 86 and 62 deputies respectively. The Socialist Party together with the Left Radical Movement has received approximately 33 percent of the votes and has 216 deputies (previously it had 285). About 10 percent of the voters voted for the Communist Party [PCF] and it will be represented by 35 deputies. For the first time, representatives of the extreme right-wing "National Front" -- 32 deputies -- will sit beneath the vaults of the Bourbon Palace.

People here are drawing attention to the fact that the election campaign and the elections themselves left many French people indifferent. Nearly one voter out of every four (about 23 percent) abstained. In accordance with the electoral reform carried out by the authorities, for the first time during the Fifth Republic, the elections were held in one round under the proportional representation system, not the majority system. The number of seats in the new National Assembly has increased from 491 to 577. Elections to the regional councils were held at the same time.

The results of the elections reaffirmed that the policy of the Socialist government and above all their inability to solve the unemployment problem has caused dissatisfaction among the electorate. This has led to the point where the right-wing forces will henceforth have the majority in the National Assembly. But counter to expectations they obtained only a slight majority -- just two seats -- and many of them do not conceal their disappointment at the election results.

A statement from the PCF Politburo stresses that the rightists' victory will have adverse consequences for the working people. The "stringency" policy which the Socialist government pursued, the statement notes, has weakened France, increased unemployment and social inequality, and thus opened the door to the rightists.

The country's democratic public and politicians of various orientations are expressing alarm and concern at the fact that representatives of the "National Front" have joined the National Assembly. Scarcely had the results been made known before the National Front's leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, hastened to announce that the extremists intended to take part in the country's administration.

Since the elections, for the first time in the entire history of the Fifth Republic a situation has formed in France whereby the president (a Socialist) and the parliamentary majority belong to different political camps. This, commentators stress, raises the complex problem of their "cohabitation."

The president has to appoint a prime minister (from the right-wing majority) who must form a government. Observers note that the slight majority which the rightist possess (not counting the extremists) complicates their task and, conversely, expands the president's opportunities for maneuvering.

FRENCH BUSINESSMEN END VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD141839 Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- A delegation of French businessmen ended a visit here today, which marked a noticeable step forward in broadening and strengthening commercial contacts between the USSR and France. The trip was arranged by the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce.

During their nearly week-long visit the members of the delegation, including 80 representatives of 50 French firms and banks, were able to familiarize themselves with prospects for the Soviet Union's economic development as well as its import needs and export possibilities and make business contacts with various Soviet organizations and departments such as the chamber of commerce and industry of the USSR, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, foreign trade associations, the State Committee of the USSR for Science and Technology, and Moscow city organizations.

Jean Fevrier, secretary-general of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce who led the delegation, said before flying back home that such trips enable French firms to have a better knowledge of the Soviet market. High-level contacts and diverse meetings also help French companies acquaint a broad circle of Soviet specialists with their products. This is especially important to small and medium-size firms whose financial possibilities to study external markets are limited, Fevrier said. He added that two-thirds of the delegation members represented precisely such firms.

Seeking to extend and consolidate relations between the two countries, the Franco-Soviet chamber, its secretary-general said has been stepping up its promotional and informative work in different areas of France. It has also started organizing symposiums by French firms in the USSR. Fevrier said he estimates that more than 60 symposiums and other Soviet-French expert meetings will be held in the Soviet Union this year, where French companies will be able to demonstrate their products and technical expertise.

ARISTOV RECEIVES AUSTRIAN ECONOMY CHIEF

PM141019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Text] USSR Foreign Trade Minister B.I. Aristov received R. Sallinger, president of the Austrian federal chamber of the economy, on 13 March. During the meeting the sides exchanged opinions on questions of Soviet-Austrian economic cooperation in connection with the exhibition of "Modern Austrian Industrial Technology" to be held in Moscow in April of this year. H. Grubmayer, Austrian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

ARD CORRESPONDENT 'RUNS INTO' YURCHENKO IN MOSCOW

LD141847 Hamburg DPA in German 1722 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 14 Mar (DPA) — Vitaliy Yurchenko, the double defector and KGB officer (49) rumored dead in the West, is in fact alive. He surfaced surprisingly in the bar of the Press Center at the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow today (Friday). The allegedly dead man acknowledged that he is working with the security service for foreign representatives of the USSR. The entrance to the Press Center, which is accommodated in the building of the semi-official NOVOSTI Press Agency, responsible for foreign propaganda, is guarded by uniformed police and can as a rule only be passed with a special card.

PRAVDA, the party organ, had on Tuesday denied the version circulating in the West that Yurchenko had been executed. The newspaper announced that Yurchenko, who "had been mistreated for 93 days in the CIA's torture chambers" is now working on his "memoirs."

Lutz Lehmann, the Moscow ARD correspondent ran into Yurchenko by chance today (Friday) in the bar of the Press Center. He readily allowed himself to be interviewed in front of the camera. When asked whether he was really Yurchenko, he said: "Yes, I am Vitaliy Yurchenko. Should I show you my passport?"

Yurchenko said that he had spent a few weeks in hospital for treatment after his press conference in Moscow last November. "Then I was recuperating, and now I'm working in my office again and am living here in Moscow." As to whether he had had any difficulties with the Soviet authorities, Yurchenko said: "No, I have none, had none, and shall have none."

He was, he said, living with his family in Moscow and also goes to the theater there. His work in the USSR Foreign Ministry is "the protection of our representatives abroad." He is working at his old place of employment. There, he is busy "applying" his experiences "for the better protection of our representatives abroad."

Yurchenko answered the question as to whether he would travel abroad again by saying that he "would do this from time to time." He would not be visiting the United States again. On the PRAVDA announcement that he is working on his memoirs, Yurchenko said: "I am making a few notes so that I can recall my story." But he does not know whether a book or some articles will come of it. "I am not a reporter or an author...I do not need the publicity."

On Western reports of his exection, Yurchenko said: "I am here, alive, and this is the best confirmation that I am alive."

KOMAROV, FINLAND'S LAINE DISCUSS JOINT TRADE

LD182103 Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- First deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR, N. Komarov today had a conversation with Finland's Foreign Trade Minister Jermu Laine. The sides discussed the present state and prospects of Soviet-Finnish trade. Finland's ambassador to the USSR Aarno Karhila took part in the conversation.

BRIEFS

TAX CONVENTION WITH SPAIN -- Moscow March 18 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet ratified on Monday the convention between the Government of the USSR and the Government of Spain on preventing double taxation of incomes and property, signed in Madrid on March 1, 1985. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 18 Mar 86 LD]

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES IN CAIRO

LD181845 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo March 18 TASS -- A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Pavel Gilashvili, arrived here from Moscow on an official visit today. The delegation includes deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Sergey Losev, Anatoliy Mayorets, Nikolay Popov and Dzhanikul Yusupov.

At Cairo Airport the Soviet guests were welcomed by the speaker of the People's Assembly of the Arab Republic of Egypt Rif'at al-Mahjub, chairman of the People's Assembly's Foreign Affairs Commission Muhammad 'Abdal-allah and other officials.

AL-QADHDHAFI CITED AT 'ANTI-IMPERIALIST' FORUM

PM181359 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Mar -- The conference of anti-imperialist forces has begun work in the Libyan capital. Taking part are about 300 delegations from various countries, including representatives of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with the Countries of Asia and Africa.

M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, who addressed the opening of the conference, expressed concern at the activation of the reactionary forces struggling against the planet's freedom-loving peoples. In this connection, he called for the consolidation of joint efforts in countering the aggressive plots of U.S. imperialism, racism, and Zionism.

M. al-Qadhdhafi denounced the U.S. Administration for steering a course of "neoglobalism." The United States, he said, is terrorizing the peoples by its nuclear missiles and military fleets and has created a ramified network of military bases throughout the world. The arsenal of U.S. imperialism's weapons includes aggression and the seizure of other people's lands, economic subversion, and the physical elimination of politicians inconvenient to Washington. Essentially, al-Qadhdhafi pointed out that the United States, which uses its stooges and allies as an instrument for achieving hegemonist goals, stands behind all criminal actions of the present day on a state scale, be they Zionists' crimes against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, the genocide practiced by the Pretoria racists against the black majority in South Africa, or the bloody reprisals wrought by the fascist regimes of Latin America against the freedom fighters.

## IRAQI DELEGATION MEETS COMMITTEE MEMBER

JN181713 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1632 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 18 Mar (INA) -- The Iraqi peace and solidarity delegation led by its deputy secretary general, Dr 'Isam 'Abd 'Ali, met here today with Igor Belyayev, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Combatting Zionism and Soviet peace and solidarity committee member [name and title as received]. They discussed preparations for the scientific conference of international nongovernmental organizations to end the Iraq-Iran war scheduled to begin in Geneva next month. They also discussed the dire consequences of the treacherous Iranian aggression against Iraq and the Iranian threats to the Arab Gulf states, in addition to ways to bolster the unity struggle of the Arab masses against the imperialist and racist Zionist onslaught.

## ALGERIAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT USSR IN MARCH

LD181505 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 18 TASS -- Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic and general secretary of the National Liberation Front on Algeria, will pay an official visit of friendship to the Soviet Union at the end of March at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

## BRIEFS

SOVIET-ARAB FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY -- The sixth accounting-electoral conference of the Turkmen republican branch of the Soviet-Arab Friendship Society was held in Askhabad today. Those who addressed the conference spoke about the strong versatile contacts between the peoples of the USSR and the Arab countries and about the common struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reactionism and for peace, national independence, and progress. They proposed measures for consolidating friendship and for exchanging experience. Muradov, Turkmen SSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education, was elected as chairman of the Turkmen republican branch of the Soviet-Arab Friendship Society. [Summary] [Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 12 Mar 86 GF]

TASS VIEWS WISNER NEWS CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN

LD151014 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, 14 Mar, (TASS) -- "Good relations" are being strengthened between the United States and the RSA, Frank Wisner, deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, has stressed. At a news conference in Cape Town, he told journalists that during "fruitful" talks with South African Foreign Minister R. Botha they discussed the RSA's new "proposals" for settling the Namibian problem.

Washington is trying to impose on Africa these "proposals," which make the withdrawal of Cuban internationalists from Angola a condition for holding a general election in Namibia. The aim of these far from new proposals is to weaken People's Angola in the face of South African intervention and to remove SWAPO from the settlement process. The State Department envoy's tour of southern Africa, following the recent U.S. visit by Savimbi, ringleader of the anti-Angolan terrorist group UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], demonstrates that Washington has not given up its policy of "quiet diplomacy" combined with strong pressure on the "Frontline States." The administration will use all means to "change the political orientation" of the countries of southern Africa, Secretary of State Shultz said at congressional hearings.

Frank Wisner's task is also to present in a good light the administration's African policy, which has come under fire in the past days in Congress. U.S. military aid to the UNITA group will draw the United States into an armed conflict in Angola, warned Richard Moose, former U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, speaking on Thursday at the congressional hearings. He stated that the RSA authorities are seeking direct U.S. armed intervention in Angola in order to release forces for the suppression of unrest among the African majority inside the RSA.

PRAVDA DERIDES S. AFRICAN 'MANEUVER' ON NAMBIA

PM171035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Article by Igor Tarutin: "Empty Gesture"]

[Text] P. Botha, president of the Republican of South Africa (RSA), recently addressed parliament with proposals on the Namibian problem. He expressed "readiness" to set about fulfilling the UN resolutions on granting Namibia its independence effective 1 August this year.

But having begun on a good note, the chief of the racist regime quickly ended on a bad one. He once again repeated Pretoria's long-standing demand: that the Cuban contingent be withdrawn from Angola before RSA troops leave Namibian territory.

It is a question of the so-called "linkage" between two issues that have nothing in common with one another. An attempt is being made to artificially make the liberation of Namibia -- which the RSA is suppressing contrary to all international norms -- conditional on the Angolan people's renunciation of their legitimate right to turn to their friends for assistance in protecting their independnece and sovereignty, which is fully in accordance with the UN Charter.

This old RSA trick has already once been rejected by Angola, by the South West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] (the organization fighting for Namibian independence), and all the "Frontline" States.

It has been condemned by the OAU and the United Nations. However, as we can see, Pretoria is once again putting forward its absurd demand.

Why did the racists need to make a gesture with "new" proposals? To all appearances, several aims are being pursued at the same time. One of these aims is to pressure Angola. This is being done at the very moment when the United States has switched to direct intervention in Angolan international affairs, increasing aid to the anti-government UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] terrorist group. It is striving to destabilize the country from within through the counter-revolutionaries and to gain concessions from it, notably on the Namibian question. And Pretoria is bringing parallel pressure to bear from outside, speculating on Angolans' interest in eliminating the hotbed of tension on their borders.

At the same time, aware of the unacceptability of this "linkage," the racists are marking time in order to strengthen the positions of their proteges from among the "internal" puppet Namibian parties. A "transitional government" made up of these parties has already been knocked together in the hope of transferring power to it and bypassing the United Nations.

They try to conceal these behind-the-scenes intrigues by putting forward various "initiatives" such as the present one. The aim of this "marking time" is to create the appearance that the RSA is also supposedly striving for a settlement and offering various proposals to that end, that it is only a question of Angola's and SWAPO's refusal to compromise. Imperialist propaganda, incidentally, gladly clutches at this straw. A clear shortage of arguments is now apparent in the West in favor of continuing cooperation with the apartheid regime, which has unleashed cruel terror within the country and engages in piracy abroad. Even now some have begun depicting Botha's proposal as a "positive step." But maneuvers of this kind will delude no one.

## CPSU, TANZANIAN PARTY AGREE ON COOPERATION

LD182318 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 18 Mar (TASS) -- A plan for party ties between the CPSU and the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM) for 1986-87 was signed in the capital of Tanzania today. It provides in particular for an exchange of delegations and information on party work experience.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, F.P. Muro, deputy head of the International Department of the CCM Secretariat, highly praised relations between the CPSU and CCM. He pointed to the community of views between the two parties on many international problems, including the question of offering help to the peoples of southern Africa and Namibia in their liberation struggle against the inhuman apartheid regime.

F.P. Muro declared CCM support for Soviet peace initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race and reducing and eliminating nuclear arsenals. He expressed his conviction that the signing of the document on interparty cooperation would serve the cause of strengthening friendly ties between the Soviet Union and Tanzania.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO U.S. NICARAGUAN POLICY

## Reagan's Address Criticized

LD170958 Moscow TASS in English 0939 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- The Government of Nicaragua has stated a protest against the accusations voiced by President Reagan in a U.S. national television appearance. In the statement circulated here by the embassy of Nicaragua in the United States, the assertions by the head of the Washington administration are qualified as "instigatory rhetoric based on false premises and on overt distortion of facts."

Contrary to the President's assertions, the statement points out, the expansion of the aid to the "contras" runs counter to the efforts which are being made by the Contadora Group with a view to avoiding war through a peaceful dialogue and talks. To suppose something else is to try to deceive the Congress and the U.S. public opinion in order to win support for the policy of military interference in Nicaragua. The statement of the Nicaraguan Government points out the need for a "serious and responsible" approach by the United States to the problems of Central America.

## Ortega Ready for Talks

LD171050 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 17 Mar 86

[Text] Stockholm March 17 TASS -- Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega had denounced U.S. criminal policy against his country. Speaking at a news conference in the Swedish capital where he attended the funeral of Olof Palme, he said the U.S. Administration's striving to overthrow the Sandinist government is "disquieting."

Ortega said that by executing an aggressive policy against Nicaragua, a policy protested the world over, the United States is flagrantly violating human rights. The Nicaraguan Government, he said, will never sit down at the negotiating table with bandits from counter-revolutionary gangs.

Ortega expressed his government's readiness to normalize relations with Honduras. He called, in particular, for setting up a special international commission under the Contadora Group and under the support group, which would monitor the situation on the Nicaraguan-Honduran border. The Nicaraguan president also said he is ready to hold talks with Ronald Reagan on a political settlement in Central America.

## Ramirez Condemns 'Diktat'

LD151129 Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Managua March 15 TASS -- The United States has absolutely no right to meddle in Nicaragua's home affairs, said Vice-President Sergei Ramirez of Nicaragua. Addressing a press conference in Managua after a meeting with U.S. congressmen from the Republican Party, he pointed out that the Nicaraguan Government was ready for peace talks with the USA to end bloodshed and normalise bilateral relations but will never subordinate to its high-handed diktat and will not agree to "dialogue" with Somozista mercenary gangs financed by the CIA. The Nicaraguan Government, Ramirez said, has notified the U.S. delegation that it considers the current debate at the U.S. Congress on new appropriations running into many millions for the Somozistas to be an unlawful and immoral act in conflict with the basic norms of international law.

## Tinoco Attacks 'Terrorist' Funds

LD151150 Moscow TASS in English 0833 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Managua March 15 TASS -- The consent of the U.S. Congress to grant 100 million dollars to the Somozista terrorists would involve a fresh aggravation of tensions in Central America and would be detrimental to the efforts of Nicaragua and Costa Rica aimed at ensuring security along the common border, said Victor Tinoco, first deputy foreign minister of the Republic. Speaking to newsmen, he pointed to the great significance of the agreement reached between the Governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica to set up an international commission for control and observance in the border zone, which has become an arena of provocative sorties by the American mercenaries. While the Latin American countries are proceeding the path of dialogue and strengthening peace, the USA is banking on a toughening of its policy of war and aggression in the region, Tinoco stressed.

## FMLN LEADER NIDIA DIAZ ON SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR

PM141311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Statement by Nidia Diaz, member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] leadership, in response to questions by IZVESTIYA correspondent A. Kamorin in Moscow; date not given, first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] During the days of the 27th CPSU Congress, Nidia Diaz, member of the [El Salvador] FMLN leadership, was in Moscow. IZVESTIYA correspondent A. Kamorin met with her and asked her to talk about the Salvadoran patriots' struggle.

[Diaz] The 27th CPSU Congress undoubtedly marked a qualitatively new stage in Soviet society's development along the path of communism. The humanism of the plans put forward at the congress for the further improvement of socialism and the Soviet Union's adherence, again confirmed during these days, to the ideals of peace and social progress will have a great influence on strengthening the forces of democracy and national liberation.

The proposition put forward in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report on the fair, political settlement of international crises and regional conflicts is particularly important for us participants in the struggle for El Salvador's independence and democracy. We are consistent supporters of peace, and from the very beginning of our struggle we have sought the opportunity to resolve existing contradictions by political means. However, in 1981 we were forced to go over to armed struggle for our people's rights. At the same time we once again submitted proposals to the ruling regime for a peaceful settlement. That settlement was thwarted by the interference of the United States, which, following its strategic line of the "military solution" of El Salvador's problems, supported a large-scale war against the patriots.

Despite this, our peace proposals remain in force. For us, a political solution in El Salvador means the elimination of our motherland's ignominious dependence on American imperialism; an end to the bloodshed, abductions, and destruction; the restoration and development of our country's economy; and a guarantee that Washington will not interfere in our internal affairs. We are prepared to have a serious dialogue with the Duarte regime on all these questions. As recently as 13 December last year, our revolutionary organization again proposed that a dialogue should begin.

But the authorities, while demagogically declaring their "dedication to dialogue," are following in the wake of a U.S. policy which offers only one solution to the Salvadoran problem -- a military one.

Guided by this doctrine, the United States is increasing the scale of its military aid to the ruling regime. There are U.S. advisers in the country who are not only training goons, but are actually participating in combat actions. Moreover, the White House is prompting Duarte to carry out so-called "social reforms," and the efforts to implement them have demonstrated how utterly futlie they are and have reemphasized the antipeople nature of the puppet regime. The failure of the "reforms" is pushing the authorities onto the path of fiercer repression. In these conditions our peace proposals are the only way to end the Salvadoran people's suffering.

The FMLN bases its activity on a combination of military and political struggle. In the political sphere we are focusing attention on strengthening the unity of the people's mass organizations and all forces advocating independence and democracy. The creation of the National Union of Salvadoran Working People -- the biggest mass trade union organization in the country -- was a considerable step forward on this path.

In conditions of worsening economic crisis, regular violations of human rights, and increasing U.S. interference, working people are seeking to unite their efforts in the struggle to eliminate the causes of the conflict -- poverty, exploitation, and repression.

In the military sphere the plans of Duarte and his masters, aimed at destroying the resistance forces, have totally failed. Today our detachments are operating on 90 percent of national territory. The forces that have been sent to fight us are sustaining considerable losses; On the average, 25 men and officers per day. We have learned to combine daily partisan actions with massive strikes against the goons. District partisan forces and a people's militia have been organized and are being strengthened. On the other hand, there are obvious symptoms of demoralization in the ruling regime's forces: There is a lack of unity in the Army command, and desertion and insubordination are increasing.

Our struggle is a people's struggle. El Salvador is a small country with an area of 21,000 square km and a population density of 234 people per square km. As you will appreciate, it is very difficult to wage covert combat actions in such conditions. But thanks to the people's support and their active involvement in our struggle, we are not only continuing to operate but are constantly increasing the scale of operations. The masses know that the FMLN is struggling for a just cause, and that is the guarantee of ultimate victory.

As for the foreign political conditions in which the battle for El Salvador's freedom is unfolding, it must be noted above all that the USSR's consistent, peace-loving policy, which meets with a broad response on all continents, is increasingly altering the correlation of forces in the world arena in favor of the forces of democracy and progress. Consequently, it is aiding our struggle as well.

We want only one thing -- we want Salvadorans to have the chance to exercise their right to self-determination without foreign interference in our affairs. The United States today is one of the main warring sides in El Salvador. In an attempt to conceal its intervention, Washington claims that Nicaragua is supplying us with weapons. This is a downright lie. We get our weapons in battles, and our warriors are trained at our own training bases. People not only in Central America but all over the world are increasingly realizing this.

## CUBA 'DENOUNCES' CALL FOR SOVIET UN STAFF CUT

LD150643 Moscow TASS in English 0637 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Havana March 15 TASS -- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba has described the demand of the U.S. Administration on the reduction of the personnel of the U.N. missions of the USSR, the Ukraine and Belorussia in New York as another attempt to bring pressure to bear on the U.N. and restrict the rights of the U.N. member states.

A statement circulated here stresses that those actions constitute a gross violation of the norms of the international law. Their purpose is to subordinate the U.N. to the diktat of Washington. The U.S. Government seeks to hamper the struggle of the countries of the socialist community and all the progressive forces within the U.N. framework for peace, for the termination of the arms race, for the respects for countries' independence, for the social progress of peoples on behalf of the Cuban Government the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba strongly denounces this step.

COMMENTARY ON CHILEAN POLITICAL SITUATION

LD180000 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1954 GMT 17 Mar 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] In accordance with the so-called constitution which the Chilean junta compiled in 1980, General Pinochet should remain in power until 1989. But, it would seem that the seat beneath him is beginning to rock much earlier than that. The United States, in the UN Human Rights Committee, has expressed disquiet at the human rights situation in Chile. As they say, there you have it. Quite recently, Pinochet was gushingly praising his cordial relations with Washington. Less than 1 year has passed since he met Motley, the former assistant U.S. secretary of state, and said in Santiago that the West should be grateful to the Chilean dictator for the overthrow of Allende, that the overthrow of the legitimate government led to an improvement in the general atmosphere in Latin America. There you have it. Washington suddenly seems to have seen the light. Well, as you know, it is rare in politics that something happens quickly, even if at first glance something appears unexpected.

The situation is heating up in Chile. Action by the people is taking on an increasingly organized nature. Recently, a member of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front said that 1986 will be decisive for the consolidation of forces waging the struggle against the regime existing in the country. Naturally, they cannot fail to know this in Washington. There have been reports that in recent months the White House has been trying to influence Pinochet, to make him get down to it and create a semblance of democratic change, even attempting to persuade him to allow the possibility of some kind of legal opposition, of course, acting under control. THE NEW YORK TIMES ran a front page report on this topic. The United States is afraid, it says, that Pinochet's reluctance to permit a non-communist opposition will strengthen the position of the communists. That is what it is all about. Apparently, the head of the junta, having dug in his heels, has ventured to disobey his mentor and patron and has hit below the belt.

I am far from saying that tomorrow, or at some time in the near future, Pinochet will, like Duvalier, be secretly taken out by a U.S. aircraft, thus saving both a bankrupt dictator and the U.S.' interests. But one cannot exclude the idea that the public condemnation of the Chilean junta and its leader that the United States has come out with will turn out to be the first bell for a change of window dressing, much like what happened in Haiti.

Donald Regan,the White House chief of staff, in an interview with NBC tried to dispel any doubts. The U.S. Administration has no intention at all, he said, of destabilizing or overthrowing the Pinochet regime. In fact, too much links Pinochet with Washington. If Regan's assurances correspond to reality, this means that the condemnation of the head of the military-fascist dictatorship in the UN Human Rights Committee was simply the usual propagandistic ruse.